



異世界魔王と 召喚少女の 奴隷魔術

The King of
Darkness and
World Story

SLAVE MAGIC

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「……あなたなら、本当に、
わたしを救ってくださるかもしれません」



二人の女の子の顔が、間近まで迫っていた。
夢か——と拓真は判断する。



女の子の一人は、どう見てもエルフ。

もう一人だって、頭に三角形の

猫みたいな耳が生えている。

どちらも、現実の人間ではありえないほど、美しい。

だから夢だと考えて、拓真は二人の美少女の顔が

近付いてくるのを客観的に眺めて——

「大きいのって、

さわってみたくなるよね？

ディアヴロなら、

さわってもいいよ！」

「あつ、んっ……」

——マズインじゃねえの？

などと思いながらも、

全く理性は仕事をしない。

しっかりと重量感のあるふくらみを、

なでて、もんで、さわりまくってしまう。

「いや……それは……」

Prologue

In that game, there is only one person that is an existence that is called the true [Demon King].

Fantasy MMORPG Cross Reverie -----

The true [Demon King] is not an official monster.
It is among the 3.000 000 people nationwide that are called Cross Reverie's players.

This game possesses a system where [the player can create their own dungeon, and reign over it as the boss. It's possible for anyone to become a [Boss Character].

However, among them, there is only one person that is called the [Demon King].

Creating a detailed dungeon that outdoes the official ones, and, with overwhelming equipment and player skills, thoroughly beating up challengers, the true identity of the [Demon King] is wrapped up in mystery. Only the fact that he has enough ability to be at the point that it's scary is widely known by the high grade players, and has turned into a legend.

-----For some reason, the usual [Demon King] goes easy on people.

The [Demon King] that gets serious is so strong that it's absurd. It's enough to make people never think of challenging him again.

Many of the high grade players that overheard that rumor challenged the [Demon King] just to try and make him get serious.

However, they didn't forget how the usual [Demon King] was.

The high grade players start thinking.

-----Just what will make the [Demon King] get serious!?

Is it the reality of the player's equipment?

Is it the titles that they possess?

Is it only against those that have high player skills that he will show his seriousness?

They possessed any or all of those things.

Something that will make the strongest player, Demon King 《Diablo》 get serious.

That is-----

「Ah, these guys are a couple. Let's kill them.」

Demon King Diablo-----the one that is that player, Sakamoto Takuma discovered a certain item in the challengers' item storage and muttered. He fixed himself and sat deeply into his PC chair.

In his LCD monitor, a dungeon that had been made even to the finest detail was displayed.

On the wall that was grotesquely designed to imitate internal organs, there were skeletal candle stands, and white bone colored candles that were lit.

On the field that was a spread out marble floor, a battle was in the middle of being carried out.

The man that towered in front of the throne who was dressed in full black and had horns growing out of him, was the player character that those around him called [Demon King].

The ones that challenged the Demon King were a male magician and female healer pair.

Takuma, like a Demon King would, curved the corners of his mouth.

「The fools that carry the impure thing known as love from the real world into the game world, I, the Demon King, have no choice but to pass judgment upon them.」

Normally, one would think that a girl in a net game would be an urban legend but, it was definitely obvious that those two were boyfriend and girlfriend in reality. Which one was the male and which one was the female was beside the point.

In this game, there was an item called a 《Wedding Ring》 .

It seems that it was implemented due to demands from a portion of the players but.....

Although it could only be equipped if there was consent from the two players, it was an item that no ability-like merits whatsoever.

Unless they not only knew each other offline, but were also boyfriend and girlfriend, they shouldn't even think about obtaining one.

Takuma pressed the equipment change shortcut.

「Ku ku ku.....If you have the 《Wedding Ring》 , then I will make you regret using such a pointless piece of equipment with a ring of my own.」

While having even his heart turn into that of a Demon King's, Takuma had equipped the item that was the reason why he had come to be called the [Demon King] onto Diablo.

《The Demon King's Ring》

Bouncing all kinds of magic back, it is one of the strongest pieces of equipment in this game.

By being the first to defeat the 《Demon King of the Brain Enkvalos》 that had made its appearance in an update two years ago, and obtaining it as a ranking reward, it's a super-class rare item.

Since recovery and support magic will also be reflected, some scheming is required to use it but.....

「It will be an extermination! Equipping those things called Wedding Rings that increase neither defense nor attack, for you to challenge me, the Demon King with those on, you damned fools! Net games aren't just for fun. Also, riajuus should just explode. That's why! I shall make you explode! In a magnificent manner!」

A one-sided slaughter had started.

Firing the magic that he had mastered, he blew apart his opponents.

With all of his opponents' magic attacks being bounced back, completely none of them had reached him.

Like this, Takuma had once again made another couple experience fear of net games.

He doesn't care about the other players.

What made the Demon King Diablo serious, was not for a game-like reason.

—-Kill couples.

Just that desire alone, is what caused him to become the symbol of fear known as the [Demon King].

He never thought in his wildest dreams that he would be summoned to another world as a genuine [Demon King].

Chapter 1: Being Summoned

Part 1

The faces of two girls drew near until they were pretty close.

So this is a dream——is what Takuma concluded to.

One of the girls was, no matter how one looked at her, an Elf.

For the other girl, there were triangular ears like a cat's growing on her head.

Both of them, were beautiful enough that they couldn't possibly humans of reality.

That's why, thinking it was a dream, Takuma objectively gazed at the faces of the two beautiful girls that were getting closer -----

The feeling of real lips.

Being close to his own lips from the left and right as if he were being pecked at, the tender lips of the girls were felt.

The girls' body temperatures felt hot as if they were flaring up.

The sensation he felt was so soft they felt like they would melt.

What was faintly sweet, was the smell of the girls.

There's no way this is his imagination, this torrent of not yet personally experienced information.

He finally realized that this situation was happening in reality.

Part 2

—— I was, kissed? Why?

It was too much of rapid development that he couldn't comprehend it.

Takuma absent-mindedly gazed at the sky.

The two girls had long disappeared from Takuma's sight.

Only a pure blue sky was spread out all around him. It wasn't the house ceiling that he had become familiar with.

And then, his own appearance was also different.

I'm wearing a mantle?

It wasn't the collar-stretched T-shirt and half-pants that were starting to fray at the cuffs that he wore in his room.

It was the appearance of pitch black clothes and an important person's mantle.

In his hand, he gripped staff that had a pitch black aura rising from it.
He surveyed the surroundings.

As he thought, no matter how many times he looked, it wasn't his own room.

It wasn't particularly spacious. It was an eight-sided place that was about five meters from one side to the other.



Takuma was seated in the middle of a stone-built altar.
In the surrounding area, there were four stone pillars.
The light that was lit at the tip of the stone pillars, was neither fire nor electricity, but was an overflowing phosphorescence. It was just as if it were a game's magic effect.
Outside, deep blue scenery had spread out all around.
Just like a pretty tall building, the surroundings were only of the sky.
Probably, they were on top of a tall tower or something.
In this place, other than him ----

There were two girls.
One of them is an Elf. That's all that he could think of her as. Enough to make him doubt his eyes.
Her ears were long and tapered to a point.
Since it's enough to call the Elves a long-eared tribe, it's a big characteristic.
Her hair was golden as if it were melted gold, and there was a grass decoration placed on her head.
She wore a green tunic, and since it was only tied up with strings in several places, her skin could be intermittently seen from the fluttering of it.
A quiver was carried at the back of her waist, and a large bow was carried on her back.
Her neck, her torso, and her limbs were all long and narrow. If it were only that, it would be the very Elf that Takuma knew of but, the wide and "looking like they'd have springiness" bulges on her chest were the only things that were obviously different from his image of them.
The other party——
Was a girl that had cat ears on her head.
Both her ears and her hair that grew down all the way to her waist were similarly a beautiful black color.
She's short but, her thighs that could slightly be seen were tight, and one could tell that she had trained.
Her cat-like almond-shaped eyes and her spruce eyebrows made one feel the strength of her volition. Expressionless like a doll, she looked his way.
Her clothes were a vest that went to her chest, had shoulder pads attached, and was hanging from a jacket, and a wide leather belt coiled above her waist. It had a great number of pockets attached. She wore a skirt of layered cloth around her waist and, maybe because he was on top of a pedestal, he couldn't really see what was under it.
The long eared maiden was beautiful, and the cat-eared maiden was adorable.
Takuma had recognized the characteristic appearances of the two.
——As I thought, an Elf and.....possibly, could it be a one of the Panther

People Tribe?

The players of the MMORPG Cross Reverie chose a race of their liking at the beginning of the game, and were able to alter things like their features and their figure.

Among the races that could be chosen at that time, the Elf and the Panther People Tribe were there.

Elves were a race that excelled in long range attacks with things like bows. The Panther People Tribe possessed super fast movements and strong offensive ability as a race. That was the setting.

——It's as if, I'm in the world of Cross Reverie.

If that is the case, just what was the building that he was in now?

He felt that he had seen similar background graphics within the game but.....He just couldn't put his finger on it.

Takuma was one of the top players in regards to Cross Reverie. His amount of knowledge of it greatly surpassed that of regular person's knowledge.

That is why Takuma was so frantic to remember the building that he was at, as well as why he was carefully observing the surroundings.

The reality of it wasn't half-assed.

The feeling of the stone.

The remains of a dried up puddle of water.

The flowing clouds in the pure blue sky.

Maybe because this place was a high location, but the wind was strong, and made a rumbling sound.

The pure white light of the sun that was suspended in the sky shined with a strength that couldn't be possible in an LCD screen.

The smell.

The smell of mold and soil that was characteristic of an old building, rode and was carried by the wind.

The fragments of the stone paving that the floor was composed of were scattered about.

This overwhelming resolution, just how high-specced would a PC and monitor have to be to reproduce this. It was way too vivid.

Takuma thought.

Is this the real world?

However, this scenery is definitely something that he recognized in the game.

The Panther People Tribe maiden muttered with a small voice that could be erased by the wind.

「...With this, the slavery ritual is done.」

Did she say slavery ritual?

Takuma finally remembered the name and use of this tower.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, there existed many skills that made one think “if you only think about the efficiency of it, I have no idea what the reason was for implementing it.”

Calling such inefficient skills a “romance” and, as if to seriously say 『Net games aren’t just for fun』, Takuma and other hard core players would not choose them.

For example, even in the system of the occupation called 《Magician》 that Takuma had chosen, there were two patterns of romance skill configurations.

One was called a 《Hitting Magician》, something that, despite being a magician, trained to adjacently attack.

And then, the other romance is, it was——

The Elf maiden happily said.

「The summoning was a success! And so, with this, I’ve also become a 《Summoner》!」

That’s right, a 《Summoner》.

It was established that a magician 『that uses magic based on the elements, such as earth, water, fire, wind, or light or dark, would be the strongest』.

Despite that, by casting aside all of the skills for the elemental magics, one would pour the bonus point at the time of a level up into the Summon skill.

That kind of romantic occupation is what a 《Summoner》 is.

Their way of fighting is 『to enslave a summoned beast, and make it fight for them』.

However, although a summoned beast will go out front and fight, its offensive ability for each attack is low. An attack from an elemental magic of the same level would be many times more powerful.

For defense, they had various ways of getting it like relying on their company to act as shields, scheming on how to go around it, or defeating the opponent before they can attack.

For those reasons, 《Summoners》 were made fun of with things like

『Summoner (LOL)』 and 『If you want a pet, go play a different game』, and were considered weak.

The thing that had a connection with those Summoners, was this place——
The summoning point, 《Starfall Tower》.

This place was for the sake of calling out summoned beasts and enslaving them. There seems to also be special summoned beasts that can be obtained from events but, normally they would be obtained here.

In fact, the altar that Takuma was laying on was the exact location that the

called out summoned beast appeared at.....

The Panther People Tribe Maiden talked.

「.....That misunderstanding is very troubling. This summoned beast is something that I summoned. Your magic didn't succeed.」

The Elf maiden objected, appearing to be angry.

「What was that!? I don't understand what you're saying!? I proper used the summoning incantation, didn't I!? Plus——I, I even did, the slavery ceremony! I went and did something so embarrassing like a k-k-kiss, see!？」

「.....S, same here, I did it as well...Besides, I've never seen a humanoid one. Compared to the typical ones, since there's no mistake that it's a fairly powerful summoned beast, it would be impossible with an Elf's magical power. In other words, thinking theoretically, it means that this is the summoned beast that I called out.」

「That's wrong! It's mine!」

The two maidens were in disagreement.

Takuma understood the situation.

——In other words, I wasn't called to this world, which is pretty similar to Cross Reverie, as a player.....

The two maidens had, almost simultaneously, said it.

「.....I'm the one that summoned 《Diablo》 .」

「I am the one that summoned 《Diablo》 !」

Sakamoto Takuma—— No, Diablo was summoned to another world.

However, it was as one of the two girls' summoned beast.

Part 3

Takuma thought back on Cross Reverie's setting in regards to summoned beasts.

Summoned beasts are setup to be apart from the hostile monsters like the Demonic Beings and apparitions. They are creatures that are called out by Summoners and get enslaved by them.

They can't say any words but, their intelligence is high, and are able to fire off powerful attacks. There are also some that have special effects such as healing.

However, because making them submit is difficult, a 《Slavery Choker》 is put on them through a 《Slavery Ceremony》 .

The summoned beast that has this choker attached to them with this ceremony becomes obedient to the one that summoned them.

——I'm, going to be made to be absolutely obedient!?

Remembering the setting, Takuma turned pale.

If this world really was the same as Cross Reverie's settings in anything and everything, he himself, who was called upon as a summoned beast, would, from here on out, have to be obedient to either one of the girls.

Either the blonde, slender and long limbed, beautiful, and big breasted Elf—
—

Or the short, delicate, expressionless, cat-eared maiden——

He felt like it might be alright even if he was made to be obedient.

——No, no, of course that's not good!

Having lost to temptation for a moment, Takuma shook his head left and right.

The two maidens turned their gazes towards him.

Because they seemed to only have a bit of time to compromise——The cat-eared one went to talk to him.

「.....Can you understand our words?」

「Ah, yeah.」

He made a light reply.

The Elf maiden and the cat-eared maiden opened their eyes, surprised.

「It spoke!?!」

「.....I'm surprised. Far from understanding words, for it to be able to let them out is...」

「As expected of me! Even though it's my first summoning, it looks like I called out something amazing!」

Cat-ears glared at the Elf.

「...I've said this several times already but, the one that summoned Diablo was me, and not you.」

「But I've said that countless times as well! Also, Diablo responded to my call, you know!?!」

The two glared at each other.

It seems that they were bickering the whole time about which one was the Summon Master.

That reminded him, two Summoners cooperating to call a single strong

summoned beast, that kind of feature wasn't in the game.

「.....I understand.....If you're going to go that far in saying it, then let us check to see which one of us Diablo will be 《enslaved》 to.」

The Elf accepted while look down on cat-ears.

「Fine by me! Let's go and do this then! Well, since it is my summoned beast, it's obvious that it will obey me!」

It turned into a strange development.

The cat-eared maiden approached him.

「.....By the name of Rem Galeu, I command thee. Raise your right hand.」

It would seem that her name is rem Galeu. Could Rem be her given name?

Takuma obediently raised his right hand.

The Elf objected.

「If it's an order of that degree, of course it would listen to you! If you're going to do this, you need to demand something more unreasonable!」

「.....Being unable to accept defeat is pretty unsightly but, very well.....I command you, Diablo. Go and pinch that Elf's cheeks a bit.」

「Would one normally make that kind of demand!?!」

The Elf was dumbfounded.

Takuma tilted his head to one side.

「Eh? But I don't want to do that.....」

Rem became shocked from this answer. It's because the command was refused. In other words, she was not a Summoner——is that how it turned out to be?

The Elf stuck out her huge chest. There was a whole faced smile.

「See! See, see, see, see, see! I knew that the Summoner was actually me! So with that being the case, my summoned beast Diablo! By the name of Shera, I command thee! Go and slightly strongly spank the bottom of that Pantherian!」

「.....To command for violence to be done onto another person, I'm starting to doubt your character.」

Rem protested.

Didn't you just say something similar just a little while ago, is what Takuma thought.

「I also don't want that.」

「Why!?!」

The Elf's eyes went completely round.

Even Takuma tilted his head.

——It's unusual, isn't it? For me not to feel any kind of compelling force at

work, it's strange seeing as how I'm enslaved. Is it because I'm a player?
Rem glared at Shera.

「.....It appears that, because you had forcibly hijacked my summoning, a malfunction seems to have arisen.」

「Isn't that wrong!? I had my eye on this place before you, you know!? I thought that if it was this place, I'd be able to call even an other world Demon King with high magical power!」

「.....I should have driven you out from the start.....It isn't too late for me to do it now. I'll just coercively expel the nuisance, and redo the Slavery Ceremony.....It's because the other world's Demon King is mine.....」

Rem took out a transparent crystal from a pocket of the grass belt.

Shera readied the bow that was carried on her back.

At this rate, a fight was about to start.

Quarreling isn't good.

Let's try to talk to them and get them to calm down——is what Takuma thought. Calmly putting his head to work, and trying to spin out words that would somehow persuade the two, he solidified with a *Hata*.

——Huh? In talking with g-girls, what am I supposed to do again?

Takuma searched his memories.

Talking to a real girl, when was the last time he did that?

More than a year ago!? No, because the employee of the convenience store that he went to just a little while ago was a female, it was at that time.....Did he have a conversation with her!?

The real world is hopeless.

Even in the game, because he only did the Demon King play solo, he didn't even do a chat with a Nekama¹.

——No! There is one! I've had a conversation with one!

Very, very recently, he had experience in talking to a girl!

Takuma faced Rem and Shera who were still quarrelling and, based on his little experience, called out to them.

「It would be best if you stop your foolish strife. Right now, you are in the presence of 《Diablo》, you know.」

¹ Nekama is a combination of Net and Okama. A Nekama is someone that plays an online game as a character of the opposite sex.

The two suddenly stopped their movements.

And then, they looked his way.

——Alright, this is it!

It was the Demon King-like tone that he used for the players that challenged him. If it was this, he would have no problems in conversing with even the female players.

Having thought of a method to talk to the girls, Takuma felt like he wanted to do a fist pump.

However, he endured doing so.

After all, a Demon King wouldn't do a fist pump.

「I detest useless strife. It's because something like the mutual crushing between two bugs is nothing but an annoyance.....Therefore, I command thee. You had better do a conciliatory handshake.....With a smile!」

Rem narrowed her eyes.

「Just who.....would do that with such a foolish, no good Elf like h——!？」

Shera knitted her eyebrows.

「Haa!? Since the one in the wrong is the one over there, until that small Pantherian apologizes, I won't forgi——!？」

The two's facial expressions, began to curiously distort.

Their eyelids were awkwardly closing and the corners of their mouths were twitching and convulsing as they were raised up.

The changes, weren't happening only on their faces.

Rem held the crystal in her left hand, and presented her opened right hand.

Shera lowered her bow, and held out her right hand in a similar manner.

The two took a step closer to one another.

「.....How could such a.....such a.....such a foolish thing happen!？」

The expressionless Rem had, only just now made a face that could only be called a smile.

Shera had become afraid.

「No.....Stop.....Why, my body, why is it moving all on its own!？」

Their eyes seemed to be crying, however, the girls had carried the ends of their lips up.

The handshake was exchanged.

Though it was with a strange facial expression of what could be called an extremely reluctant smile.....

Just as Takuma commanded, the girls did a conciliatory handshake with a smile.

A black light coiled about the two's heads.

Vwoon.....A low tone remained in the ears.

After that, as if something were being locked, a *Gachi!* sound was made.

Tough chokers appeared at Rem's and Shera's slender napes. Those chokers were thick objects that had a dull luster like that of iron.

Rem touched the base of her neck with her hand, then opened her eyes.

「This is.....a 《Slavery Choker》 !?」

Shera also checked her neck, and raised a voice that was like a scream.

「Why!? Why!? Isn't the summoned beast one that this is supposed to be attached to!?!」

「.....I'm certain that we should have performed the 《Slavery Ceremony》 that was meant to place the 《Slavery Choker》 but.....」

Takuma tilted his head.

「Hn? The 《Slavery Ceremony》 you say? On me?」

Rem nodded with a perplexed face.

「Y, yes.....That, ceremony magic, should have been, casted on you but.....」

Takuma overlooked his own body.

He was wearing the pitch black clothes 《The Hollow of Jet Black》 and the luxurious mantle 《The Curtain of Dark Clouds》 .

If he patted it, he would have known that, on his head, an item called 《The Distorted Crown》 , which was something like a goat's horns, was equipped.

And then, his left hand's middle finger——

What was there was an ostentatious ring that looked like flames were forcibly frozen into a ring shape and had a pitch black gem attached to it.

Takuma remembered that that graphic.

《The Demon King's Ring》

In the game called Cross Reverie, it was a super-class rare item that displayed an effect that was unmatched by magician opponents called 《Magic Reflection》 .

Though, the way of using it was difficult since even recovery and support magic would be reflected.

Takuma made a conjecture.

——In short, because of this ring, the Slavery Magic was rebounded onto the two of them, or something like that.

The one to be enslaved wasn't Takuma, but was the Summon Master maidens that had their magic returned to them.

Part 4

「..... 《Magic Reflection》 is a tremendous ability but.....I won't accept it. This kind of thing.」

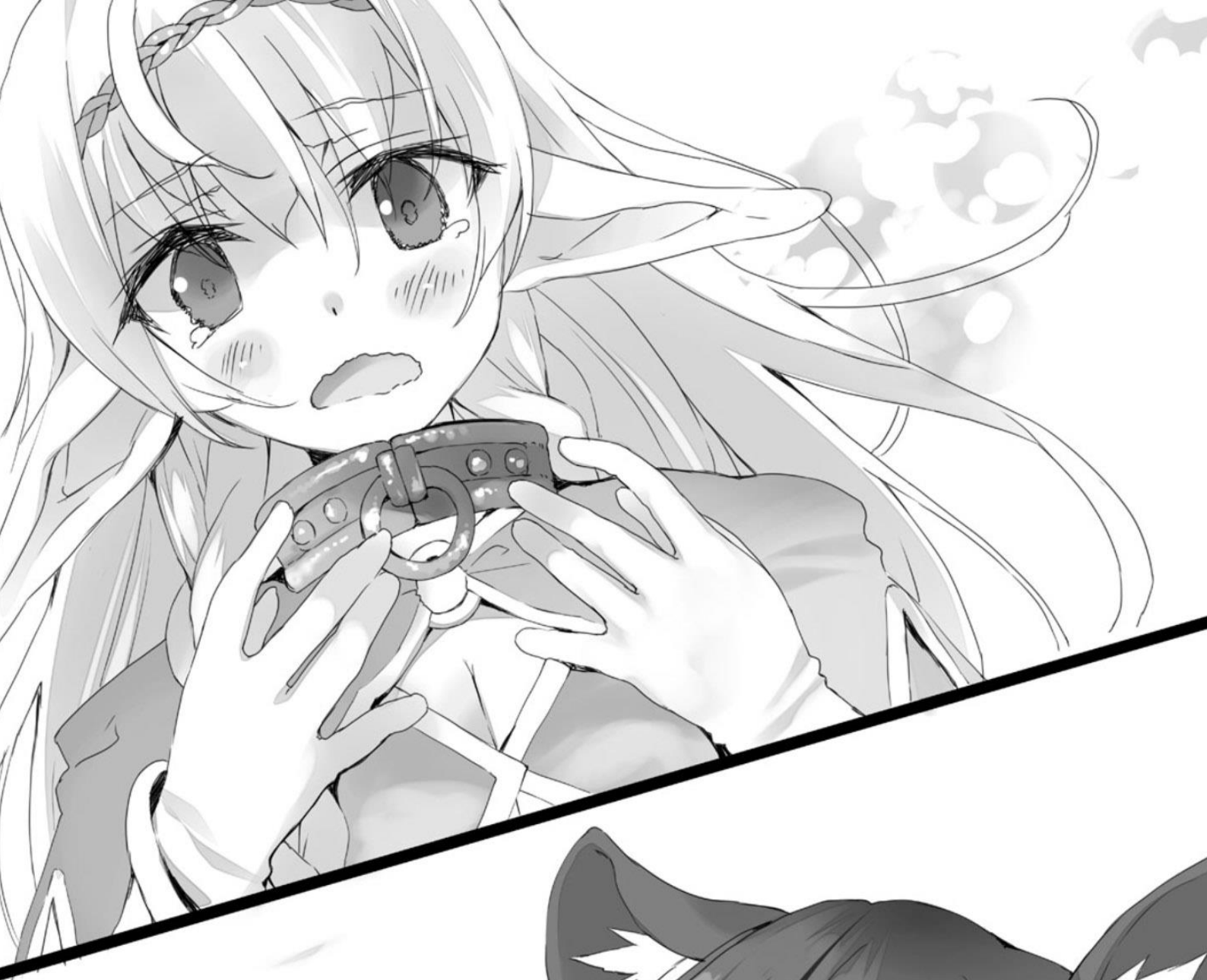
「Same here! I don't want to be enslaved to a summoned beast!」

Rem and Shera shouted.

Takuma thought.

——I have a feeling that leaving these two dissatisfied like this is going to be bad.

Right now, Takuma had succeeded in enslaving the two.



However, Cross Reverie's 《Slavery Ceremony》 was, in the first place, vocabulary that appeared in the setting explanation, and was not the kind of magic that players could use as they like with the proper timing.

The powerful existences in the world that were summoned beasts were, from their standpoint, creatures whose motive was to do as they were told by a small race of people, and did so, that was what their settings were made to be.

Summoned beasts were 『creatures that wouldn't disobey in a game-like way』 .

That's why, things regarding the 《Slavery Ceremony》's effect range and limitations have become obscure details. At the very least, suddenly waving a standard of revolt——that kind of method didn't exist.

The place that he was in, appeared to be a reality that was very similar to Cross Reverie. It was probably a different world kind of thing. As long as this wasn't a dream.....

In this other world, just what kind of effect did the thing called the 《Slavery Ceremony》 have?

——By some possibility, could there be a way to cancel the summoning? If there is, that would be bad.

In regards to the game, summoned beasts were changed into items when they didn't make an appearance and were in the player's possessions.

——What kind of state would “becoming an item” be?

Going by the game's visuals, a summoned beast would become a crystal. He didn't think that things would end safely with him becoming a crystal.

While they had the slavery chokers attached, he should give the order to reject the item-ification.

——First of all, I'll try asking if the enslavement could be called off.

「Oi, you guys, can you not even cancel the magic that you used yourselves?」

The two that were shouting at each other simultaneously looked this way. Rem squinted her eyes.

「.....If we could, we would have done it already. Since it's normally a magic that doesn't get cancelled, we don't know how to undo it. If we go into town, we might be able to find a way but.....Or maybe.....If the master were to die, the enslavement would be undone.」

「Hou?」

His voice slightly shook. Even though he had cultivated his Demon King role play for many years, countering with a 『Hou』 was the most that he could do.

However, it seemed to have been effective. Rem had shrunk away.

「.....That is only about the method. If we had the strength to defeat you,

there'd be no meaning in going out our way to summon you. We understand.....that it would be impossible to defeat you like that.」

It was, a frightened voice.

Due to the Demon King role play up until now and having shown a reflection of magic, for Rem and Shera, Takuma seemed to be projected as a “considerably strong being”.

Because of that, the trembling of his voice, was probably interpreted as “being angry”.

He was relieved that his original self did not show through.

——Is the current me, strong?

Certainly, 《Magic Reflection》 had activated but, the only thing that was taken from the game world was the equipment.....there was that kind of possibility.

The in-game Takuma had reached the maximum level of 150, mastered various elements of magic, walked around to do research, and was altogether the strongest 『Demon King』 .

However, without the menu window and shortcut icons and being in a condition where he couldn't operate with a mouse and keyboard, there was a possibility where he can't use magic in the first place.

No, even if he could use magic.....

——If the average level of this world isn't anywhere close 150, it would be bad.

In other words, what he needed to ascertain was his relative strength.

Compared to another person or a monster, just how strong was he?

There was a need to see the people of this world's——in other words, these two's reactions.

「Oi, you guys.」

The Elf maiden pouted her lips.

「Argh! Stop it with calling us with that “you guys”! It's because I have the name of the Genius Summoner Shera L. Greenwood, after all!」

——Nn? Greenwood?

It was a surname that he felt that he had seen somewhere in the setting documents collection. It was on the tip of his tongue.

But, it didn't come.

「Hmph.....At present, “you guys” is enough. Don't anger me with too much pointless talk.」

「Uuugh.....I, I get it.」

It seemed that it would be a long time before the Demon King role play's effect would fade away.

However, a day will definitely come where he will have to display his true strength. He needed to quickly confirm his ability.

Since Starfall Tower was only a place for summoning, it was narrow.

He couldn't help but worry about if he was too weak or, at the same time, if he was too strong.

If a tested out attack magic were to unexpectedly spread out, these two as well as he himself might get caught up in it.

「Are there any monsters around this area?」

「.....It's only to the degree of an occasional beast being driven out from the forest.....Though there are more than close to the town.」

Takuma felt relieved.

Being in a condition where he didn't know how much of his own strength he had, he didn't want to suddenly have a battle.

If he were to behave timidly, Rem and Shera would become suspicious of his true ability.

He needed to show them that he was strong.

「Hm.....So there aren't any monsters. What a boring place.....Well, it's fine. I guess I'll just test it out on some rock or something that's just laying about.」

Heading towards the stairwell, he started walking.

His recollections were unclear but, he was relieved that there was a stairwell going down ahead of where he was going.

「Hold it! Don't go about as you please! You're my summoned beast, aren't you!?!」

From behind, Shera's voice came.

Rem muttered.

「.....He isn't your summoned beast.」

With small, quick steps, Rem came walking, and lined up beside Takuma.

She looked up with her cat-like eyes.

A tiny cat-eared maiden. No, well, to be accurate, she was panther-eared.

She is a Pantherian after all.

She was expressionless but, because of that, it conversely made one feel and an adorableness from her that was like that of a pure, small animal.

——So cute.

He was driven to the temptation of wanting to pat her head.

Ahh, I want to try helping myself to those cat ears!

However, a Demon King wouldn't see a cute girl and just pat, pinch, or poke them.

From behind, Shera's footsteps got closer.

Chira (Peek), when he looked, not just her beautiful blond hair, her breast that had a volume that one wouldn't think an Elf would have swayed.

——Amazing.

With a will of steel, he tore his gaze away.

With an atmosphere that was indeed that of a Demon King, he walked as if he were leading the two.

However, right now, the reality was that if an accident were to occur, he would have to rely on those girls.

Part 5

The stone stairway had footsteps resounding.

Because it was somewhat steep, the pace was slow.

While keeping his hand on the inner wall, Takuma descended the spiral stairwell of the narrow tower.

——It's real.

From the minute scratches engraved on the stone, to the chill of when they were touched.

Probably due to the passing of the ages, fragments fell from the seams of the walls.

What came in from a small circular window was the light of the sun.

The name used for the sun in Cross Reverie was something that he couldn't remember.

The information that Takuma had interest in gathering was, not the backstory of this other world, but, intelligence on the application of magic that had good efficiency and on new items.

Since he had already cleared all of the Story Quests, he should have known very well about the setting of the world itself but.....

Rather, the question was about how consistent was it with the game.

They slowly left the tower.

Takuma narrowed his eyes from the torrent of pure white light.

Getting accustomed to the light, the features of the world became distinct.

Scenery that was just like the game, but, had a reality to it that the game couldn't compare to had extended before him.

The place that he was at until now was 《Starfall Tower》.

On the west side of it, the extensive 《Man-Eating Forest》 was spread out.

The dense and overgrown trees kept anyone from looking inside but——around the entrance to the Man-Eating Forest, there should have been a dungeon that had the shape of ruins.

On the east side, grasslands continued on as far as the eye could see.

In the game, there was a river beyond these grasslands, and even further beyond that, there should be the 《Frontier City Faltra》.

If he remembered correctly, one should arrive there in about five minutes even if they were moving on foot but.....From here, he couldn't even see the river. Maybe it was because there were ups and downs on the grasslands or maybe it was too far.

Or maybe, the geography was different from the game.

The means of movement of Cross Reverie were of three types: on foot, by vehicle, or by transference.

In the case of going on foot, there was a possibility of a monster encounter. Monsters would pop up randomly and many of them would attack when they found players.

In the grasslands that spread out before him, giant scattered rocks were laid about. Hiding behind these, one would be able to avoid monsters.

However, since he was doing a Demon King role play right now, he couldn't show the unstylish appearance of hiding behind a rock.

Surveying the surroundings, and confirming that there weren't any monsters, Takuma was relieved. It was great that it didn't turn into a situation where he would have to be protected by the two girls.

In the area of this Starfall Tower, monsters that were around level 60 would appear.

If it were in the game, for Takuma's character——for Diablo, the monsters wouldn't even become an opponent but, for himself right now, he didn't know how things would turn out.

That is something that he would confirm now.

Rem and Shera were quarrelling 「This summoned beast's master is me」 as usual.

Takuma turned his head towards the two of them.

「You guys are misunderstanding one thing.」

「.....And what would that be. Though, it is true that this low quality Elf is misunderstanding things in thinking that she was the one that summoned you.」

「It isn't a misunderstanding at all, okay!? Diablo was summoned by me!」

「.....How foolish.....This time was your first summoning right?」

「That might be true but, it's because I'm a genius! Everyone in my home town said so after all!」

「.....I have already contracted seven summoned beasts. Even among the Summoners in town, this is a top class number, right.....In other words, I am an excellent Summoner, you are less than someone that isn't an excellent Summoner, and Diablo is an excellent summoned beast.

Therefore, one can derive the conclusion that the one that summoned this Diablo was me. You can understand this, right?」

「Eh? Eh? What, in other words.....what?」

「.....Elves should just shoot their arrows or something. You stupid Elf.」

「Don't lump me together with the other Elves! Same to you! Pantherians should just sharpen their claws or something!」

「.....It's because I'm special.」

Rem turned away with a *Tsun*

Takuma breathed a sigh.

——Girls, when they start to talk, the topic steadily gets derailed, doesn't it? Do these two have those kinds of personalities?

However, since a “Demon King making a troubled sigh from handling girls” does indeed not make him look strong, instead, he scornfully laughed.

「Hm.....You guys, it looks like you are very reluctant to listen to what I was going to say, doesn't it?」

The two jumped.

They were so scared that even he pitied them but, right now, for the sake of pulling out information, things as they were now was probably good.

In the first place, since he didn't know a good way to deal with girls other than the Demon King role play, he couldn't help it.

——What should I do, seriously.

Well, he could only carry on as a Demon King right here.

「Listen up, I'll say it clearly.....I am not a summoned beast!」

The two of them exchanged glances.

Shera opened her mouth.

「B, but, you were summoned with the Summoning Ritual, right?」

「It is because I am an existence that transcends common knowledge. Being lined up together with those summoned beasts that can only do one thing is irritating.」

「.....So in short, you aren't held down by the restrictions of a summoned beast?.....Are you saying that you have more than two abilities?」

The summoned beasts in Cross Reverie each had their own configured parameters and possessed only a single special ability.

Things like poison, paralysis, recovery, getting on the summoned thing and traveling, mowing down several enemies with a beam cannon——There are various things that they can do but, 『having only one action other than normal attacks』 was the specification. That was the configuration in the game but, from Rem's words, it seems that it's the same even in this world. He was a bit relieved.

With a *Niyari* (Grin), Takuma curved the shape of his mouth just like a Demon King.

「Umu, that's right. As proof, I possess abilities other than 《Magic Reflection》 .」

It was chemical elemental magic.

Unless he could use this, he wouldn't be worth considering.

Of course, he also possessed various effects from his other equipment but.....

Takuma stood at the edge of a pool of water on the ground, and saw his own appearance that was reflected.

What he was wearing was black clothing called 《The Hollow of Jet Black》, which decreases the power of physical attacks and, just by wearing it, had the effect of increasing most parameters.

What covered his back was a mantle called 《The Curtain of Dark Clouds》. It had the effects of preventing bad statuses and, at the time he would receive an attack that would make his HP hit 0, it would have 1 HP remain.

It was equipment to make people go 『The Demon King won't die!』 but, he hasn't been driven down to 0 HP even to this day. Though, he would die from receiving an attack after that remaining 1 HP.

He wore on his head something that 『would give him a devil-like visual when worn』 called 《The Distorted Crown》. It didn't only just change his outward appearance, it also had an automatic HP recovery effect.

He had a staff equipped as a weapon called 《The Staff of Tenma》 which raised the INT parameter and shortened the magic chanting time.

At his waist, there was an Item Pouch.

Hidden within the mantle, potions for MP recovery use and, since 《The Demon King's Ring》 would reflect even restoration magic, HP recovery use should have been inside it.

And then, he also had a reserve rare item that he thought of giving as a commemoration when someone that could defeat the 『Demon King』 would appear.

He had wanted to take them out to check but, in regards to the game, 『taking out』 would be simultaneous with 『using』 it. In this world that showed signs of reality, he thought that that shouldn't happen but——he wanted to avoid the risk of uselessly consuming the items until he had finished checking his own abilities.

On the middle finger of his left hand, there was 《The Demon King's Ring》. It was the sole item at present that he was able to check on its effect. Even in the game and even in this world, it truly was Diablo's trump card.

And then, Takuma witnessed for the first time Diablo's face in this world. ——Uwaah, I'm a good-looking guy.

A figure that had a face, that was quite different from that of the Takuma of the real world, was reflected right there.

The glint of the black pupils of his eyes were sharp, there were birthmarks

that looked like bluish black tattoos that went from his forehead to his cheeks, and it looked like there were two horns on his head due to the effect of 《The Distorted Crown.》 .

On his mouth, a scoffing-like smile was attached.

With a beautiful form that overflowed with a rough charm, when his body was tensed, his skin was dark-skinned and sturdy.

This wasn't 《Sakamoto Takuma》 at all.



It was the 《Diablo》 as it was in the game.

The outward appearance was as it was in the game.

——What about abilities?

His own battle style was, due to his chemical elemental magic and how he conducted himself, a one-to-many extermination battle that wouldn't allow the opponent to counterattack. Could he really do the same thing?

Rem and Shera brought their heads together and were discussing.

「.....Not a summoned beast? Certainly, I haven't heard of a summoned beast that possessed more than two abilities but.」

「Diablo is a summoned beast, isn't he?」

「.....Just why are you so bad at comprehending things?」

「Heh? Comprehend?」

「.....Diablo is displeased with being treated as a summoned beast, that is what he was talking about.」

「But, he was summoned from another world, right? Isn't that what a summoned beast is?」

「.....Just forget it. More importantly, those abilities other than 《Magic Reflection》, what could they be?」

Rem had a pensive look on her face.

With a *Pon*, Shera brought both her hands together. As if to say that she had thought of something good.

「We just have to have him show them to us, right!?」

「.....Certainly, as a Summon Master, there is a need to grasp an understanding of his abilities.」

Rem's eyes that looked like they could pierce, faced his way.

Shera drew near with her eyes glittering.

「Hey, Diablo! Show us those abilities of yours!」

「.....That's right. If you really do have several abilities, by all means, I would like you to show us.」

Because some additional things came up, naturally, he had intended to try them out.

Surely, he could use magic——he should! Probably.....He'd be troubled if he couldn't.

He couldn't say something like “It might be impossible” now.

Takuma smiled with a *Niyari*.

「Ku ku ku.....Very well! I shall show it to you.....The true power of Diablo!」

Part 6

Takuma lightly looked at the surroundings, and discovered a moderately sized rock.

It's height was about three meters and its width was probably around five meters. Since the surface was smooth as if it were polished, he didn't think that it could be a natural rock.

If it were in the game, it was an object that couldn't be destroyed no matter how many times it was hit with magic.

From here on, he would try attack type chemical elemental magic out on that rock.

However, he was nervous.

Although he had said that he would show them his ability so that he would not appear to be some weirdo that suddenly fires attack magic in a field, he might have stirred them up a bit too much.

They had really gotten their hopes up way too high.

「L, let's see.....Even if I were to make way too serious of an effort, I can't exactly go and exterminate the ground. A fragment of my ability. Maybe one one-thousandth of my full power, maybe one ten-thousandth.....If it's to that degree, I believe that it would be alright to show you guys that much.」

「Whatever, hurry up!」

「.....Your power, please show it to me.」

With this, there was no turning back.

In front of the two that were extremely interested——Takuma concentrated.

Matching up the mouse cursor with the target and pressing the shortcut key that had a setup magic, that was the way of using magic in regards to the MMORPG Cross Reverie.

There was also an automatic lock-on as well but, in order to make use of techniques like 『Sliding Fire』 or 『Scraping Hits』, Takuma preferred the method of manipulating the cursor from an over the shoulder visual point. ——With the intent of matching the cursor with the mouse, I look at the rock.

There was another one of himself that overlooked himself, is what he imagined.

With the other self, he would manipulate the self that was a magician, and make him fire magic.

He chose something that he frequently used in the game.

Causing a detonation, it was the chemical elemental magic of fire that would make a small range of area combust——《Explosion》.

Belonging to intermediate level magic, if a chemical elemental magician

were to appropriately assign the bonus points they acquired until they were level 50, it was something they could learn.

It's power isn't high but, because it had a moderate effectiveness range and it was quick to generate, it was easy to use. Even after raising one's level, it was frequently used.

The Diablo that was in the game was already level 150 and of the highest grade of magicians.

A simple magic like this, there's no way I can't succeed with it!

Takuma turned the pointed end of 《The Staff of Tenma》 at the rock.

——Can I really use something like magic?

「ッ!？」

From the doubt that suddenly crossed his mind, he involuntarily stopped moving.

Rem tilted her head.

「.....Is something the matter？」

「What are you doing? Weren't you going to show us your power？」

From the two's words, his heart started to pound.

At this rate, it's not good.....not good.....

「D, do not be hasty.」

「.....As the Summon Master, I have the need to know about your power.

Please hurry up and show it to me.」

「I'm the master!」

Shera insisted that but, Rem didn't react.

If it doesn't succeed, his position will disappear.

Motionlessly, he shed sweat.

——Remember the magic's explanatory note!

For the sake of fortifying the image of the magic being successful in more detail.

The theory should have been written in the explanatory note.

That's right, if remembered correctly, it was something like 『collecting the hydrogen within the atmosphere, it ignites that spot using magical power』 .

He wasn't sure if it was scientifically correct or not, but he tried to imagine it.

He should be able to do it.

——Even if the me of the real world couldn't do it!

Having slaughtered a multitude of players, if it were the Demon King Diablo, it should be possible.

《The Staff of Tenma》 started to cast a light of darkness.

Drawing an image of the magic's definite success within his head,

Takuma——No, right now, he himself wasn't Takuma. In this world, he was the Demon King Diablo!
He muttered.

「《Explosion》！」

It exploded!

The gigantic rock was repelled out from inside.

The rock's fragments were scattered into the surroundings as if they were shot out.

Rem and Shera raised a scream, and hid behind the flustered Diablo's back.

Although they were just rock fragments, if one were to be hit by that velocity, they might not be safely excused from it.

Diablo didn't avoid them.

Since there was no damage, if it were an effect, it was an unconscious habit.

If there was damage, it would have been dangerous but.....

The clothes his body was clad in 《The Hollow of Jet Black》's physical damage reduction activated. The rocks that came flying had, right before hitting Diablo, lost their force.

There wasn't a problem.

——I used magic!

He himself was able to use magic!

From having succeeded, a joy that was enough to make him want to jump was welling up. However, he couldn't perform that kind of childlike behavior. He is a Demon King after all.

「Fumu.....I guess it's something like this.」

It would be even more amazing if it were my original power, is what his way of speaking implied when he said it.

However, an unpleasant thought came to mind.

——The inhabitants of this world might not think of this as being a big deal.

Diablo turned his head to the two that were hiding behind his back.

Shera and Rem had shrunken their bodies and were whispering to each other.

「What was that just now?」

「.....Magic.....is what I saw. And in addition to that, chemical elemental magic.....However, that can't be.」

It looked like the two were surprised. However, whether it was being surprised from how strong it was or being surprised from how weak it was, he couldn't tell. It would have been better if they spoke out all of their thoughts more.

If it were in the game, the monsters of this area would have been around

level 60.

He thought that would be the reasonable level of the players in this area. That being the case, 《Explosion》, which is something that could be learned around level 50, might have been seen as weak.

「I shall show you another magic.」

He pointed the staff at a rock that was even bigger than the one before.

——Imagining it in detail is very important.

He felt that remembering the things that were in the magic's setup was effective.

If he were to take into consideration the things that he learned in school along with the configurations for manipulating the chemical elements, he should be able to make the image more concrete. Surely, there'd be no doubt that he'd be able to fire even stronger magic.

That and, it would probably be better to try out magic other than the flame type.

The monsters of Cross Regalia had attributes in their configurations, and would have rules like 『for the water attribute, fire attribute magic would have a small effect』 for example.

At the very least, if he couldn't use two types, it would be dangerous.

——Next, I'll try using the level 80 magic 《Freezia》.

It was magic that would freeze the target's range.

For its setting, 『putting a brake on the molecules' motion with magic, it makes them freeze』 is what should have been in the documents.

Pointing the staff, he lowered the temperature from the effective range—— is the image that he took.

There was a response.

「《Freezia》」

A sculpture of ice in a shape that looked like a lotus flower was produced.

This was a vision due to magic. That remained in the center of the range for a short while and before long it became phosphorescence and smashed to pieces. It was a magic that had a beautiful production.

The rock was frozen in an instant.

That wasn't all.

The vegetation in the vicinity was also frozen, and even the dust in the air became white.

In an instant, the surroundings of the rock were changed into mid-winter ground where ice effects fluttered about.

That cold air had reached even us who were outside of the range.

Diablo turned his head towards the two that were behind his back.

The two looked up at him with dumbfounded faces.
He couldn't understand what kind of responses those were.
He was starting to become anxious.
——It can't be that it was so utterly weak that they were at a loss for words, could it?
Shera muttered to herself.
「.....Amazing.」
「Mu?」
「Amazing.....Amazing amazing amazing! What was that!? It looked like it was something like chemical elemental magic, but is chemical elemental magic capable of something like that!?!」
Rem's lips were trembling.
「.....The highest grade.....No, it's an ability that can't possibly be estimated.....Even 《Ifrit》 or 《Leviathan》 whom have been confirmed to be summoned beasts of the highest grade shouldn't have overwhelming power to this extent.」
「Diablo's whole body went Puwaaah! And lit up! That was an amazing current of magical power, wasn't it! Amazing!」
「.....Diablo.....If I have you around, I'll also surely be able to save.....No, at any rate, it's worthy of admiration. By all means, I would like you to choose me as the master.」
「I said that I am the Summon Master! Rather, since I'm the one that needs him, I absolutely, absolutely, absolutely won't give him up, got it!?!」
「.....I as well have no intention of yielding.」
Seeing the reaction of these two, Diablo patted his chest down.
——It would seem that, even in this world, my magic is on the strong side. He still couldn't let his guard down, but he could at least have a feeling of relief.
Diablo arrogantly laughed like a Demon King would.
「Amazing you say? That is only natural.....I am Diablo.....One that is feared as 『Demon King』 !」

Part 7

The girls had called Diablo 『Demon King』 , but this was the first time he called himself 『Demon King』 .
Rem nodded with a satisfied look at these words.
「.....Thank goodness.....I was able to successfully call a Demon King of another world.」

「That's how it should be! It's because I was thinking of making a Demon King a summoned beast!」

Shera said proudly.

Rem then breathed a sigh.

「.....Not having any comprehensive faculty and not listening to what people are saying. This is why Elves are so.....Well, it's fine. If Diablo were to lend me his strength, I might be able to defeat that.」

「What do you mean by “that”?」

「.....It's this world's Demon King, Krebskrem.」

She tightly grasped her chest with her tiny hands.

As if she were praying.

It was an expression that could be seen as pained.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, speaking of the Demon King Krebskrem, it was the strongest boss in the official settings.

Cross Reverie's story went just like this.

『Long ago, there was a battle between the divine beings and the demonic beings. The divine beings triumphed over the demonic beings and sealed the Demon King's soul. However, currently, one thousand years since then, the demonic beings are planning the Demon King's revival. The ones to prevent that are the tribes with descendants of the divine beings——the adventurers.』

With a setting of players being “tribesmen with talent”, they were introduced to the lands of Cross Reverie as adventurers.

The adventurers would fight with the demonic beings that were planning the Demon King's revival and prevent that plan. In the event that he were to revive, they would join forces and crush the Demon King, that was the objective of it all.

——Though, with that being said, that was the higher objective of the story, and I think that most players would go “I want that weapon” or “I want to learn that magic” or “I want to clear the next event” and played for the sake of greed.

The MMORPG Cross Reverie still hadn't completed its story.

Online games were that kind of thing. Until the service ended, the tale would continue to progress.

Even now, limited time events and additions of new story quests were being performed.

At the time of the game's start three years ago, 《The Demon King of the Sword Sanctus》 that the demonic beings revived became the last boss, and when Sanctus was defeated, it was technically a cleared product. However, it seemed that Sanctus was a “fragment of the Demon King” in the end.

Eventually, it invited speculations between players of “then wouldn’t the completed Demon King be revived?”

——However, is Krebskrem the completed Demon King? That still hasn’t been defined yet.

In the official settings, only 『the name of the one the demonic beings worship』 was written.

There wasn’t a scenario opened to the public where Krebskrem makes his appearance.

In any event, not recklessly claiming to be the 『Demon King』 might be for the best. He didn’t know what kind of reaction would be made by people who didn’t know the circumstances. At the very least, he probably wouldn’t be received favorably.

Shera pulled the sleeve of my 《Hollow of Jet Black》 ——My black clothes.

「Hey, hey! Let’s hurry and go back to the town and do the adventurer registration! Because, if Diablo is there, I’ll finally be able to register as the Summoner that I aspired to be!」

「U, umu?」

「Mu~

Rem unhappily glared at Shera.

Diablo was interested and asked.

「For you guys, is a Summoner an existence that people yearn to be?」

Speaking of the Summoners in the game, it was an occupation that those who made a mistake in the assignment of bonus points or free people that worried way too much about things like efficiency could become.

The main occupations that one could choose at first were 《Warrior》 , 《Magician》 , or 《Archer》 .

Among those that chose 《Magician》 , some would normally allot the points after becoming a 《Magician》 , so that the chemical elemental magic would become stronger.

In Cross Reverie, the occupation name would automatically change according to the parameter distribution and the learned skills.

When points are distributed with efficiency as the top priority,

《Magicians》 that possessed skills, for example a 《Flame Magician》 would become a 《Combustion Magician》 then into a 《Scorching Heat Magician》or maybe, into something like an 《Ice Flame Magician》According to level and distribution, several designations are prepared.

Normally, even if someone reached the highest level of 150, it wouldn’t be possible to be versed in all magics.

It’s because just the level up bonuses aren’t enough for that.

Clearing high difficulty events, triumphing in competitions with players, obtaining a supplement of relevant goods.....and then by investing all of those earned bonus points, Diablo's occupation name became something called an 《Annihilation Magician》 .

It was believed that there could only be one player with this occupation name. That's because, even if someone grew into the same parameters, it would become 《Very Powerful Magician》 .

In addition to having that which was called a unique occupation name, it was believed that it was a title that was bestowed upon the one that first arrived at that condition. Officially, nothing had been announced but.....it was probably a meager reward for the challenger that opened up unknown territory that wasn't in the walkthrough site.

In any case, the role that Magicians were expected to do was, to boost the chemical elemental magic's power, become a fixed battery, and deal a huge amount of damage to the enemy.

It wasn't to bring out a summoned beast and increase the front line by one animal. Allotting bonus points to something like summoning magic wasn't efficient.

In the game, there was that kind of common knowledge but.....

The girls were proud of 《Summoners》 , and looked like they yearned after it.

Shera made a surprised looking face.

「It's a Summoner, you know!? If you're talking about Magicians, it's totally going to be about Summoners!」

「What about chemical elemental magic? I had shown you my power, had I not. Is chemical elemental magic not the supreme?」

For that question, Rem answered.

「.....Normal chemical elemental magic doesn't possess power to that extent. At best, firing a fireball the size of a fist or causing a gust that could only make a person fall over, it's at that level.」

「Right~. If someone called themselves a Chemical Element Magician, they'd get laughed at. 『If you need a fire, you could just use a flint』 is what they'd be told.」

「.....I won't deny that. If children were going to learn something for the sake of practising magical power manipulation, it would be chemical elemental magic but.....Normally, once they grow to adulthood, they would learn summoning magic.」

「How could this be.....」

——Is the chemical elemental magic of this world that weak?

“Isn't that the biggest difference with how it is in the game?”, is what Diablo thought.

The occupation that he had poured many hours and zeal into was——a misfortunate occupation! To think that it was treated to the point of being laughed at.

He felt a sadness from how his days of collecting information, earning bonus points, and training his chemical elemental magic were all denied. Rem shook her head left and right.

「.....Diablo's chemical elemental magic is extraordinary.....If the other Chemical Elemental Magicians were able to display a tenth.....no, a hundredth of the power you had just shown, their treatment might have become just a bit better.」

Shera nodded.

「Generally, if someone said that they wanted to become a Chemical Element Magician, they'd either get kind looks from those around them, be spoken ill of, or get seriously scolded.」

「.....They'd probably receive treatment that an Elf that doesn't aim to be an Archer would.」

「Choosing the path that matches my own talent isn't a bad thing!」
Making the two's quarrel be BGM for a while, Diablo sorted his mind. A Chemical Element Magician was a misfortunate occupation. However, that is just because chemical elemental magic hasn't been researched in this world, and Diablo's magic was exhibited the same power it did in the game. It appeared to be strong enough. Although small, he felt some sadness from having lost the kindred minds that he exchanged information regarding chemical elemental magic with at a walkthrough site but.....

There wasn't a problem.

Diablo steeled himself and raised his voice.

「Are you guys unable to do anything but quarrel when you open your mouths? ——We are going to the town. Follow me!」

After he finished saying that, he noticed.

At this point, asking something like 『Which way was the town again?』 wasn't very Demon King-like. It was really uncool.

——Please, please let the direction of the town be as I remember it! With his memories of how it was in the game as the source, he started walking.

「W, wait up~.」

「.....Y, you're a bit fast.」

Since the two of them were following him with a jog, he was relieved that it matched.

Part 8

When they continued on from the hilly area that had rocks scattered about, and on towards the large river that flowed north and south, a robust-looking bridge made of stone could be seen.

It was the 《Fort Bridge Ulg》 that was on the town's western bank.

Beyond the extended stone bridge, there was a fort that looked like a castle gate, and beyond that, there was the town.

Getting here from Starfall Tower took about three minutes on foot in the game, but it took them about three hours.

——Well, something like a game where you do nothing but migrate for three hours, that can't even be called a shitty game. Conversely, there's no reason to make a fort in a place that was a three minute walk away from the town.

Going by the game's settings——Fort Bridge Ulg was a fortress that was meant to protect the only town that was in this area.

It's because to the west of the fortress, there was the Man-Eating Forest. After traveling through the Man-Eating Forest, it was demonic being territory and powerful monsters would appear from there.

In order to conquer the dungeon called 《The Ruins of the Primeval Forest》 that was in the forest, players used the fortress as a place to meet up with party members and as a rest area to recover their HP and MP.

——Though, usually, only I would pass by those guys that were waiting for their party and head towards the dungeon alone.

How was Fort Bridge Ulg used in this world?

He couldn't find the appearances of adventurers.

Also being in the middle of the main road that went southeast, Fort Bridge Ulg became something like a checking station.

They'd confirm the countenances of those passing through or check their luggage. If put into modern terms, it was something like an inspection.

There was a great number of armored guards and Diablo understood that they were at important defense positions.

Despite their heavy armor, the soldiers stood with a precise posture.

When Diablo's group crossed the bridge and tried to travel into the fortress——A guard blocked their way.

「Oi! You, over there!」

The guard covered only his upper body with a metal armor and held a halberd in his right hand.

Not having armor on the legs was the standard for infantrymen.

Accordingly, the upper body had a thick armor placed on it.

Being 《Human》 race-wise, he was a male. His hair was light brown, short, and it was ruffled.

His eyes were big and there was a trace of nervousness on his face.

Looking closely, he looked to be of a young age.

It might be better to call him a young man.

——I wonder, what kind of position guards have in this world?

In the game, they were the police. Adventurers that did bad things were given punishment by the guards.

For example, adventurers that killed players in places other than competitions or had stolen something, had their names displayed in red as a 《Criminal》. And when they approached locations like a town or a fortress, they would get surrounded by guards and be beaten to death.

——Could it be, I, I haven't become a criminal, have I?

The Demon King role play was just role play and he shouldn't have done anything particularly bad.

Since something like a name wasn't displayed, he couldn't tell.

In the game, an event where a guard NPC of Fort Bridge Ulg would call them to a halt wasn't implemented. He became considerably restless from the impossible development.

If he were to make a timid interaction here, the meaning of the Demon King role play he did with the two behind him would disappear.

He needed to make a magnificent response!

He squeezed out his voice.

「What, you bastard? For you to call this Diablo to a halt, you do have the suitable resolve to go along with that, don't you?」

The guard stepped back as if he were shocked.

He was obviously overawed.

「N, no.....It's just that we check the ones that come and go through to Faltra, but we hadn't seen you before.....This may be a bit rude but, I'm going to need you to tell me your social status and objective.」

From his armpit, Rem raised her voice.

「.....He's.....something like my summoned beast.....Though the circumstances are complicated.」

For some reason, she was hiding everything from her neck down in Diablo's mantle and only showed her head.

Shera also, in the same way as Rem, only showed her head and raised her voice.

「I told you, that's wrong! I'm the one that summoned him!」

「So it was Rem-san and.....the elf, Shera-san.....But, summoned beast? I've

never seen nor heard of a humanoid one before. Moreover, it talks, you know?」

Rem scrutinized her eyes.

「.....If it's with my power, I can call upon a summoned beast that has never appeared before. It couldn't be that you are doubting me?」

It was somewhat like a coercive tone of voice, but because she only put out her head and her nekomimi were twitching, it looked like she was a frightened kitten. So cute.

On the guard's side, he was bewildered from being told "are you doubting me?".

「N, no, there's no way I would doubt Rem-san's power! However, that is.....the summoned beast doesn't seem to have the necessary choker placed on it.....」

Diablo gripped onto the scruff of the necks of the two that were hiding behind him.

「The choker, huh.」

Magicians are thought to be powerless, but once they become level 150, doing something like lifting up a girl with one hand was easy.

「.....Wha!?!」

「Stop it, stop it!」

Rem and Shera resisted, but Diablo easily dragged them out from behind him.

「If it's the choker, it's right here, isn't it?」

「Ehh!?!」

The guard was shocked.

Rem and Shera had their faces dyed completely red and hid their chokers with their hands.

「.....This is humiliating.」

「Uuu.....You have it all wrong!」

The guard raised a bewildered voice.

「H, huh!? Normally, the summoned summoned beast has the choker but.....Ehh!? On tribesmen.....Ehh!?!」

「Hmph.....For you to put me together with those everyday summoned beasts. It's unpleasant. Should you displease me any more than this——」

「.....Please let us through.」

「Do you still need something else!?!」

From Diablo's coercion and Rem and Shera's protests, the guard got out of their way.

「Ex, excuse me! Please take care!」

「Well, fine. Let's go.」

「Ah, I told you you're a bit too fast! Or rather, don't stand out too much!」

「.....This kind of disgrace.....I can't believe it.....Without fail, once we return to the town, I will dissolve this magic.」

Ignoring the two's objections, Diablo started walking.

Rem and Shera panicked and followed him.

The other guards and passer bys that were at Fort Bridge Ulg were similarly surprised from seeing the girls' chokers.

They gazed with great interest at the two that had chokers placed on them and Diablo who was leading them.

Part 9

Faltra was a town that had a warm climate and received blessings of the river.

The residents are kind and cheerful, and because it was so comfortable, the number of adventures that settled down here wasn't small——this was the town's setting in the game.

The vicinity around here is about level 60. Far from the story's turning point, it was nothing, but the end of the opening of the game. If they settled down here, they probably didn't continue the game.....

Even so, there was no mistake that it was a convenient, warm, and beautiful city.

The outer wall, that was made of stone, was in an octagon shape.

The canal, where water was pulled out from the river, ran the circumference as a moat. It also streamed to the center of the town, making a shape that looked like the town was divided into parts.

The stone wall and the moat functioned as protection from beasts. Wild animals were a huge threat for the regular people. The animals also brought about damage to the crops.

However, there was an intense lack of the paranormal menace known as demonic beings and demonic beasts.

What protected the town wasn't just physical objects such as the stone wall or the moat.

At each of the corners of the octagon stone wall, there was a tower erected.

They were long and narrow like antennas.

That is what formed the barrier that protected the city.

The barrier did not prevent anyone who approached it from passing through, and it only intercepted existences that were involved with demonic beings and attacks.

Due to the powerful barrier, the town has become a safety zone where demonic beings and demonic beast could not enter——at least, that was

what the setting should have been.

Diablo kept his eye on the drawbridge that was on the western side of the town.

He himself was a 《Demon》².

It was one of the races that players could choose at their time of participating in the MMORPG Cross Reverie.

The setting for Demons was——Although they are human, they are a race that inherited the demonic beings' blood in some shape or form. They had birthmarks on their faces and bodies that looked like tattoos, and though they were inferior compared to other races in terms of physical activity, they excelled in things related to magic.

Particularly, the highest value of INT, which determined a magic's power, could only be attained by this race.

However, because their parameters in HP and AGI, which influenced life and death, was low, even among other magicians, they were a race that were players oriented to being protected by their comrades.

Being a Demon Magician, despite being a specialist in independent action like Diablo, was considerably rare.

Since the town's barrier would intercept all that had to do with demonic beings, Demons and items like his weapon and protector which were made by demonic beings couldn't enter the town.

For that reason, there were gates at the four cardinal directions of the town, it was possible for anyone to come and go from there.

He was free to come and go in the game, but he would probably be more strictly inspected than he was at Fort Bridge Ulg——that is what Diablo had predicted.

People were “living” in this world. They were different from the NPCs that could only move how they were programmed to.

By the time they reached the front of the gate, it was already evening.

The setting sun made the western stone wall illuminate a madder red color.

The grass-covered plain they had walked on was dyed red as if it were set on fire.

He thought that it was a beautiful scene.

Rem and Shera who were used to seeing it probably wouldn't say anything, but Diablo was secretly moved.

They crossed the drawbridge.

Six guards wearing armor were standing in front of the gate.

Rem and Shera passed through while hiding their chokers by pulling up the collars of their clothes and covering them up with their hands.

This time, they weren't called to a halt.

² Written as 混魔族 (Mixed Demonic Being), read as デイーマン

They felt that they were being stared at. They garnered attention.

They entered the town.

Going down the main street that had many buildings made of stone on it, Diablo aimed for the plaza.

Going to this area was, rather than a habit from the game, was simply because he felt like sight seeing. His objective was to look around the town. However, since the neighborhood of the west gate at the evening was full of people, it was crowded.

Even just walking was hard to do going down the street

——So these are all NPCs.

It was a numerous amount that would be impossible in the game. Though it's a natural difference since it would be hard to walk around the whole town if there were too many NPCs and it wouldn't be fun in the game at all. There were a lot of 『normal people』 that didn't seem to be neither shop tellers, Adventurer Guild receptionists, nor people involved in the progression of quests.

There were races apart from Humans. The long and narrow-eared Elves. The triangular-eared Pantherians. The rough bearded and dog-eared Dwarfs. The Grass Walkers that could only be seen as children, but had bunny ears and tail. And then, although they aren't really seen, the Demons that have birthmarks on their faces and bodies.

They wore things like plain clothes and armor, possessed things like thatched bags and weapons, walked as they liked, talked with each other, shopped for things.

Diablo looked like he was somewhat excited at first, but.....he was originally bad with crowds of people. On top of that, with the successive astonishing spectacles, his nerves were exhausted .

——Oh crap, I'm starting to feel sick.

It felt like the fatigue that he didn't feel no matter how much he walked from before had plopped onto his shoulders right now.

While hiding her neck, Rem lined up beside him and, with her face dyed in embarrassment, talked to him.

「.....Ex, excuse me.」

「What is it?」

「.....I would, like to go to the inn but.」

Her face being bright red, she was fidgeting.

——Could it be she needs to use the restroom?

If that's the case, I would feel sorry for her if I dared to ask that in return.

「Fumu, we should do that. I was also thinking that it was about time that we head for an inn.」

At that time, there was a voice that reached my ears.

「That's Rem-san and, "that" Elven child, right? Why do they have chokers on themselves?」

It was probably due to them standing still. By the time he noticed, a crowd was made surrounding Diablo's group.

Whispered conversations could be heard.

「Eh? Weren't those two supposed to be Summoners?」

「But don't they have Slaver Chokers attached to them? Isn't that supposed to be put on the summoned beast.....」

「No, they aren't only put on summoned beasts, they're also put on slaves.....」

「So that would mean, they became that man's slaves!? Those two!?」

「Shh! You're too loud!Look, that man's villainous-looking face. Even among Demons, there aren't many that go that far. Just what are those horns.....They're warped and indeed look sinister.....」

「Seriously.....To make "that" Rem-sama into his slave, isn't he some kind of dangerous guy? For now, it might be best to inform the Magician's Society.」

「There's, something I want to ask, but, that Elven child over there seems to be of an amazing household, you know?」

「That's true, she certainly isn't an ordinary Elf.....To make those two into slaves, as I thought, there must be some story behind it.....?」

「Oi, they looked over here. It'll be dangerous if we get involved with them. He's definitely a guy that's like a demonic being.」

Those were some terrible things they said.

It seems to have reached even Rem and Shera's ears. The girls had bright red faces and held their heads down.

Their shoulders were slightly trembling.

——I'm surprised. So there was a system of slavery in this world!

He thought that the reason why the two were embarrassed about having the chokers displayed was because it would be known that the slavery magic was reflected back at them, but he was wrong.

They were embarrassed about being mistaken as slaves.

Because there weren't existences such as slaves in the game, he hadn't thought of that.

Moreover, Rem was a celebrity that she was called with a "-sama" attached to her name and it seemed that Shera was "someone from an amazing household".

——Uwaah, what should I do!?

He only just now realized the cruel fact that he was “leading around” famous girls “as slaves” in the town.

Diablo became completely apologetic.

Attention continued to gather around them even now.

「Oi, you guys, what are you standing around there for? You wanted to go to the inn, didn't you?」

Thanks to the people of the town opening up a path, it became a bit easier to walk.

Part 10

They arrived in front of the inn.

Located in between the west gate and the plaza, it was a building made of stone.

On the way here, he was guided by Rem and Shera.

In the game, there was only one inn in the town, but on this block, there were several inns. To begin with, one couldn't enter “useless buildings” in the game. Buildings that weren't related to quests had its entrances locked.

However, this world was different.

It was possible to enter almost all buildings, and even the shape of the signboards weren't standardized. A majority of the buildings were two-storied buildings that had triangular roofs, wooden doors, and were made of stone. He couldn't tell the differences between them.

——In the old days, there was an RPG whose scenery graphics were too beautiful that you couldn't tell where you should go, wasn't there. That was the big title for the dawn of the 3D age.

Making sure to not get lost might be harder than using magic.....

He would have been fine if he could at least use the map function.

When Diablo grabbed the metal doorknob, he pulled the wooden door open, and entered the inn.

It had been a considerably long time since he had been to a town's inn.

Diablo, who had customized his My Space and changed it into a dungeon, decreased the amount of times that he had come out from it.

The usefulness of the game's inn wasn't limited to just recovering HP and MP. The first floor was a bar, and was a place where one could gather information from NPCs or intermingle with fellow players.

First of all, there was the reception desk.

There, a yellow cat-eared——no, a panther-eared Pantherian young lady was there.

It was an NPC that even Diablo recognized.

The Pantherian young lady shook her light brown hair, that went down to her shoulders, and made a smiling face.

「Hello there ☆ I'm the poster girl of the Inn 《Relief》, Mei-chan~ Kyaho!」

——Ahh, so this place is exactly how it was in the game.

He didn't know if he should be relieved or if he should be amazed, it was that kind of feeling.

Since it seemed that the receptionist girl was normally like this even in this world, Rem and Shera didn't mind it and talked to her.

「.....Could you please give me a room key.」

「Rem-chan, welcome back~☆ Was the summoning a success?」

「.....It was a success.....Only the summoning though.」

Rem concealed the choker with her hand.

The inn's poster girl made a curious-looking face.

「What's wrong?」

「.....Leaving that aside.....I would like an additional room.」

——That's my share, isn't it?

Since he felt bad about being indebted to her, Diablo thought that he should at least pay for his own inn charges.

However, how would he do that?

What happened to his money?

In the game, it was only something that existed as data at the bottom right of the window. It wasn't an item that he possessed.

He didn't have something like a thatched bag equipped. He also didn't have a place to put it.

Cross Reverie's money was a unit called "Furis". The visual icon was either a copper coin, a silver coin, and a gold coin, but.....

No matter how much of an other world this place was, there was no way that gold coins could be circulating in daily lives of commoners. Most likely, there should have been silver and copper coins, but he couldn't find any.

——So in short, right now, I don't have any money?

Though, if need be, it was possible for him to pull through by selling his equipment and items. And if this was a world with the job called an Adventurer, Diablo could probably easily earn some income with his strength.....

The inn's poster girl tilted her head.

「One more room? Could it be for the Onii-san behind you? Yahho~, Onii-san. I'm the inn's ido——」

「Um!」

Suddenly, Shera raised her voice.

Although the inn's poster girl was surprised, she dealt with Shera with a smile.

「Shera-chan too, yahho~☆ Did you need something? If you need a key, I could immediately get one for you 」

「I, I.....Um.....I would like to lodge one more person in the s-same room as me, is that alright!?!」

Her face was bright red.

——It couldn't be, that person is me!?

As one would expect, Diablo put a stop to that.

「Oi, you.....It can't be that you're telling me to spend time in the same room with the likes of you, could it?」

His real intention was 『To be in the same room as a girl, I won't feel like sleeping. Please stop it, I'll die』 .

Shera grinded her teeth.

「But, but! I, I don't have the money to rent two rooms! But, if you lodge in the room that Rem prepared, it kind of makes it look like Rem is the Summon Master!」

Rem scornfully laughed.

「.....The one that invited Diablo into this world was me.....Therefore, it is natural for me, the Summon Master, to prepare a room for Diablo. Do you understand? You should just enjoyably pass the time alone in a poor way.」

「You're totally wrong! I'm the Summon Master! Because of that, the Summoner and the summoned beast should be together!」

「.....No, the excellent Diablo should be with someone excellent. In other words, with me.....That is why, um.....I will, prepare a room.....No, he'll be in my room.」

Diablo didn't have any money.

However, sharing a room with a girl, what could he do!?

Above all, Rem and Shera didn't have any intention of compromising.

Pan pan! The inn's poster girl clapped her hands.

「Okay~. A large room for three people, I'll lead you there~☆」

Shera panicked.

「Eh!? No, no, that'll be very troubling for me, you know!? Why do I have to be in the same room as Rem!?!」

「.....Sharing a room with such a stupid Elf, it's really unpleasant.」

The poster girl tilted her head with a smile. The smile had such intensity behind it that the threatening sound effect 『Go go go go go.....』 could be heard in the background.the background.

「Jeez~, it's troubling for me if you fight at the reception desk☆ I'll go ahead and put these bad kids in the same room, 'kay 」

When Rem tried to object even more, the smiling face finally disappeared.

「I'll kick you out, got it?」

Because of the excessive intensity, Rem and Shera vigorously nodded while their bodies trembled.

When the poster girl once again had her smiling face, she presented the key to Diablo.

「Well then, pleased to have you. But be as quiet as you possibly can at night, 'kay? That's a request from the inn's idol, Mei-chan☆」

He took the large, heavy, old-looking key that was made of iron.

Sharing a room with two girls huh.....

He had a hard time making it look like his hand wasn't trembling.

Part 11

In the large room on the second floor, there was only one large bed.

——So it wasn't three beds!?

In the game, there wasn't a classification of 『large room』 and 『small room』 to begin with since the fee for staying one night was fixed, so there were various differences.

The bed was a wooden frame with a sheet placed on a bunch of bundled straw. There was a smell of hay drifting in the room.

It seems that bedding like this was used in mediaeval Europe.....He had never thought that he would have to sleep in a bed of straw. Moreover, with two girls.

If he were to tell himself from last night 『Tomorrow night, you'll be sleeping with beautiful Elf and Pantherian girls in a straw bed』, he thought that he'd reply back with 『Eh!? Have I, finally gone crazy!?』.

There was only one blanket.

He didn't think that it would be cold enough for them to freeze at night but.....

One sheet, huh.

There wasn't any furniture other than that. The window had a wooden board and glass wasn't used at all.

Floorboards that were polished up and had a luster and meringue colored walls. Not having a loft, the triangular ceiling that had its boards built across a beam was a medieval European architectural structure that he had not seen in the modern-era. The candlesticks that were furnished on the walls brought about an antique atmosphere.

It was a modest room.

However, Diablo felt excitement from the ambience that he was seeing for the first time.

It was enough that he wouldn't lose interest from just gazing at the room from the entrance but——

There was one bed.

With the bed in between them, Rem and Shera glared at each other looking displeased.

「.....Why was I put in the same room as you. By all rights, it was to be comfortably pass the time by one.....No, by two people.....Could I have passed the time.....No, I should have passed the time」

「That's my line! Rather! If you hadn't said that you were Diablo's Summon Master, I would have finished my Adventurer registration long ago!」

They had placed their respective baggage at the sides of the bed.

Diablo was standing at the room's entrance.

Since it looked like if he were to make even a step to either one of them, one of them would either start to cry or fly into a rage, he couldn't carelessly move.

「.....Just how would a wandering Elf that hasn't even finished the Adventurer registration bring up the funds for the inn fee? Camping is all you can afford, right.」

「A lifestyle without a bed is unimaginable, you know!? About the money.....well, that is.....I was kind of gonna earn it after that.....and if I didn't earn it, it'd be kind of bad.....」

「.....You, it can't be that, you don't have the money for the inn fee, right?」

「I do have it! I do.....have it? Yeah, I feel like.....I have it.....Since I still have that pretty thing I took out from the treasury.....It, it's fine! Since I'll earn it! Since I'll earned it together with Diablo!」

「.....I told you not to use the Demon King that I summoned as you please——」

——These two really do love to fight.

Diablo had passed being troubled and had a pleasant feeling.

Although they had pulled out their weapons the first time, now, they're quarrelling with only their mouths.

Nonetheless, there was something he wanted to do before letting them continue to fight.

「Oi, you guys. Rather than having that pointless quarreling, let us first tell each other about ourselves.」

He knew their names from the flow of conversations.

The tiny, black haired, panther-eared Pantherian was Rem Galeu. Possessing about seven summoned beasts and seeming to be a pretty excellent Summoner, she is also someone that has “-sama” attached to the name when called.

The one that is blond and has big breasts despite being an Elf was Shera L Greenwood. She yearns to be a Summoner but seems to specialize in the bow. She seems to be “someone from an amazing household”.

That was about it for the information that he knew regarding the two.

From here on out, for Diablo to succeed in living in this world, he had no choice but to get a large amount of information from these two.

——I don't know whether or not I'll be able to return to my original world after all.

It's not like he necessarily had to live with one of them being the Summon Master, but the possibility of living with that kind of lifestyle was the highest at present.

It was essential that he confirm the girls' motives.

If their reason for going on adventures was something like "searching for a place to die" or "going to meet a guy that was stronger than me", he simply could not associate with them.

In this world that felt this real, it's probably not possible that it will end with just 『in the event you die, you'll lose some experience points and restart』 .

「There must be some suitable circumstance that led you two to summon one such as myself.....I shall allow it, tell me your goals and special abilities.」

「.....Would it be alright to take that as you are thinking about which one of us you will treat as the Summon Master?」

「Eh, really!? You're willing to become a summoned beast!?」

「According to your thoughts and abilities, I may be willing to lend a hand.」

Though, the truth was that he wanted to safely be a shut-in. But he couldn't live if he didn't earn it.

In front of him, Rem timidly opened her mouth.

「.....Allow me to name myself once more.....I am Rem Galeu. Why I had aimed to be an adventurer is, it's more like I had no choice but to do so, but.....It's because it's necessary to continue showing my strength.」

「Necessary to continue showing your strength?」

「.....That is, my personal circumstance.」

She peeked over at Shera. It was probably something that was difficult to say in front of her.

Rem continued speaking.

「.....At any rate.....I have to be strong as an adventurer.....And then, I have the final goal of defeating the Demon King Krebskrem and annihilating that soul.」

The objective of subjugating the Demon King is something that should be natural as an adventurer. At least, in the game, that's how it was set up.

However, even if that is the official stance, in reality, it becomes a goal of money or prestige.

Based on her way of speaking, maybe it was her serious personality.

Or maybe it was because she was concealing her true objective.

「.....My special skill is, summoning techniques. Other than summoning you, a Demon King of another world, I have already made contracts seven powerful summoned beasts. Right now, they are transformed into crystals and are in my pouch.」

「Umu, I understand.」

She looked like she had many secrets.

However, she doesn't look like she fools around——is what Diablo thought.

The way she spoke was intellectual and prudent. How she sounded like she had many secrets was because she spoke while being prudent about how much information she should disclose.

The Pantherians should be a race that is suited to the speed-fighter type. If she's excellent as a Summoner, which is a derivative of the Magician, there must be a reason for her piled up efforts.

He did not hate hard workers.

Also, she was cute.

Her body build was flexible and tight, her height was short, and her dynamic garments suited her very well.

Not only did Pantherians have cat-like ears, they also had flocculent, long and narrow tails. The tail that extended out from her pleated skirt was high in points.

——Ahh, no no no! This isn't the time to be thinking about stuff like that !

In order to gloss over the fact that he unintentionally loosened his mouth, he cleared his throat.

Shera opened her mouth looking dissatisfied.

「If you already have seven of them, then wouldn't it be alright to give Diablo to me!」

Rem breathed a sigh.

「.....You really are stupid, aren't you. There are two mistakes in that one sentence. First, I've said many time that Diablo is not a summoned beast. And then, the other is that it isn't possible to transfer summoned beasts to another.」

「I told you that the one that called Diablo was me! Hey, you think so too, right!？」

That subject was brought up to him.

Making her eyes sparkle, I want you to agree with me——was written on her face.

Diablo urged Shera with his chin.

「You should also talk about yourself. Depending on what you say, I do not mind considering it.」

In a flash, Shera's expression became bright.

「Really!? I, I am Shera L. Greenwood! I just happen to have the same surname as the Elven royalty but I'm completely unrelated to them, okay!？」

——Ahh, so that's how it was.

He had felt that he had read the name of Greenwood somewhere in the setting documents.

Just as Shera had said, it was a name of the forest that was the Elves' nation. And then, it seems that Greenwood is the surname of the Elven royalty even in this world.

There was also a time where you saved that place's Princess in a quest.

Also, this is a bit of proof but, it seems that it couldn't be entered as a player name.

Rem put in a retort.

「.....If you're not related, it would be fine if you didn't expressly call yourself that.」

「Ah, that's right! That's totally why I made it so that I wouldn't say it! U, umm.....It's alright to continue as if I didn't say that, right!？」

Though, when they first met at Starfall Tower, she had already named herself as such.....

「Do as you like.」

「Anyway, because of that, eh~.....the reason why it thought I'd try to become an adventurer is, because it looked like I was about to exhaust all of

my money and, the pursuers.....Umm, well, that is, various things happened, and I thought it'd be nice if I were together with a strong person. Also, traveling alone is long and lonesome.....Also, I totally have the talents of a Summoner!」

Maybe because she remembered something in the middle, she made a forlorn expression for only an instant.

She seemed shallow in prudence but her honesty made a good impression.

Since she can't keep things a secret, there will probably be a lot of trouble, but if he were to be together with this girl with a cheerful personality, there probably wouldn't be any troublesome anxiety.

Though, just like Rem, there's no mistake that she is keeping something secret.....

Also, she's beautiful.

Just like how the setting for Elves is that 『they are the closest to the divine beings among all of the races』, that sparkling hair, that transparent skin, and that slender body, they all looked like they were designed like the sculptures. And despite all of that, their movements were flexible and full of elegance.

Furthermore, Shera possessed abundant bulges on her chest that greatly differed from the flat chested image that the Elves had. When he looks at those, he starts to stop caring about the difficult things like safety and adventuring.

——No no no! Life is important! Like I said, this isn't the time to be thinking about that kind of stuff!

Be calm, be calm, is what Diablo told himself.

Shera put her hands on the bed and leaned her body forward.

「A-anyway! This is my self-introduction! So Diablo is fine with being my summoned beast, right!? Right!?!」

Due to her posture of leaning forward, *Tayun*, her bulges shook and the valley of that pair of spheres was emphasized.

Rem's facial expression cramped up.

「.....You coward.」

「What are you talking about, Rem!? I haven't told any lies!」

「.....I don't want my name to be called without an honorific by high-in-fat Elf that has pointless meat attached.」

「Wha!? I also don't want to be called something like a high-in-fat Elf! My name is Shera after all!」

「.....Shall I call you high-in-fat Shera?」

「Haaaa!?!」

They're about to start fighting again.

Though, Diablo did understand that him not choosing one of them was the cause of the two's fighting.

——I still can't declare "I shall become your strength and only live for you".

They looked like they had something to hide, but they probably had a reason that they couldn't talk about it.

While thinking about what he should do, he gazed at the quarrelling girls.

The door that was behind Diablo was knocked on.

Part 12

Come to think of it, they were warned to not be noisy.

Could that have been the inn's poster girl?

Diablo stepped away from in front of the door. At that time, since he had casually moved to Rem's side, Shera made a face like she had just received a shock but.....he pretended like he didn't notice. If he were to delve into it now, it'd be a quandary.

Rem, who was the one that paid the room's bill, responded to the knock as the representative.

「.....Come in.」

「Please excuse me.」

It was a voice that was like the sound of a bell.

The door opened.

The visitor, she was a beautiful woman.

She was a kind looking person.

Her long blue hair plaiting at the back of her head, it dribbled to the front side of her chest.

She had closed the red mantle, which had an extravagant gold embroidery applied to it, as if it were a coat, but at the same time she made her greeting, she brushed it behind her.



Because she was completely covered with a soft-looking light blue robe that had a height that went from her shoulders to her ankles, there wasn't any skin exposure, but since it had a tight design, her affluent bodyline became expressed.

He was a bit troubled as to where he should place his eyes.

What she held in her hand was a beautiful wand of white porcelain with a gold ornament. He understood that she belonged to the Magician occupation.

Judging from her first class clothing, she was surely a person with a high position——is what Diablo guessed.

Age-wise, she was probably in her mid-twenties. Even though she was only smiling, a hidden open-mindedness could be sensed within her.

「Hello, everyone.....Rem-san, so you really are sharing a room. Since it looks like you've made some friends, I'm so happy.」

Rem shook her head left and right.

「.....We aren't friends. It is the one that I summoned from another world and an extra that I don't really understand. Please think of her as mold clinging to the wall and ignore her. Her clothes are green after all.」

「Isn't that a bit too mean!？」

Shera lamented.

When the woman cheerfully laughed, she redid her greeting.

「Ufufu.....This is the first time we've met, isn't it? I am called Celestine Bordorel. Call me Celes, okay? Although I've come today due to business with Rem-san, by all means, I would like to hear the story of you two.」

Her behaviour of slightly tilting her head to one side was sweet.

Even though she was mature and gentle, she also had a child-like charm.

——Nevertheless, Celestine? This is also another name that I've read somewhere.....If I'm not mistaken, she's the Magician Society's.....

He had recalled it, but he desisted from voicing that out.

It was because it would be strange if a Demon King that came from another world knew about it.

Thankfully, it seems that Shera had noticed.

「Eh!? By any chance, are you the one of this town's Magician Society!? Celestine Bordorel-sama!？」

「Yes. Some coincidences piled on top of each other, and now I am currently acting as chief in the Faltra Magician Society.」

Although Celes looked embarrassed, she nodded.

——Magician Society.

In the game, it was an organization that players weren't able to belong to, but it was a name that he often read.

When the variety of magic increased from an update, 『It's a new discovery by the Magician Society~』 is how it would be explained.

That and, there were many times that name came up as the requestor of quests.

As an organization, it probably had an impression of a state-run research institution.

Usually, only one would exist in each city, but there were also rare cases where there would be two or more.

All of the Magician Societies had built a loose cooperation relationship, but because the characteristics differed in every city, there were merits and demerits to it.

However, they also had a common setting.

The barrier that protects the town is maintained by that town's Magician Society's chief.

In other words, with her existing, the Frontier Town Faltra will be protected from demonic beings and demonic beasts.

He had also seen the name of Celestine Bordorel as the requestor of quests, but he didn't have a recollection of her making an appearance as an NPC. So she had this kind of appearance.

——Why would a big-wig like that expressly come to an inn on the outskirts?

Celes should have already exhausted her strength from maintaining the barrier at the Magician Society's innermost department. For such a motivated shut-in to expressly come to visit, there is probably suitable reason.

She put her hands together with a *pon*.

「I know. Everyone, would you like to have dinner together with me? Seeing as how you have some complex circumstances after all.」

Her eyes that had gone narrow from her smiling face turned towards Rem and Shera's necks.

There, the slavery chokers were present.

Diablo nodded in assent.

「Very well. I was just getting hungry.」

「.....Then I will sit with you. After all, I am Diablo's Summon Master.」

「That's sly of you to declare that in front of Celes-sama! I told you that Diablo is mine!」

It was the usual two.

Celes tilted her head.

「Uun.....It seems that the situation is more complex than I had thought, isn't it? Together with that problem, we just might be able to point out some ways to solve things. Now, let's go.」

Turning her heel, she left the room.

Rem continued after her.

Compared to how she was quarrelling just a little while ago, Shera continued after them with light manner of walking.

「Food~, food~, some proper food~ 」

——Come to think of it, she said that she didn't have any money, didn't she. By some chance, she might not have had a decent meal.

It was an awfully doleful song.

Although Diablo had said so with his mouth, he didn't feel particularly hungry.

What he needed was information more than a meal.

It could probably be called fortuitous to be able to speak with a key figure of the town.

He left the room.

There should be a bar that is managed together with the inn.

Part 13

The bar was located down a corridor that stretched out on the left hand side of the inn's reception desk.

The ceiling, the floor, the counter, the tables that were arranged to have moderately sized spaces between them.....All of that was made from dark colored wood that had a smoked luster. The walls were made of stone.

As for the present guests, there was no one but them.

But the bar that Diablo knew of in the game was one that was crowded with NPCs and players and where chat windows would restlessly be flying about. It would seem that Celes had the place cleared out.

Sitting on one side of the table was Diablo, Rem and Shera. Celes sat on the opposite side.

In addition, there were two people that stood diagonally behind Celes and were vigilantly watching Diablo's group.

Both of the young men were magicians that wore light brown robes that went down to their feet, and each held a long staff in one hand.

The man that was standing in front of Diablo had a thin body that looked like a wire, had a high-strung look, and, moreover, was bluntly glaring this way.

——Is he being vigilant? No, disgusted? Is it disdain? This should be the first time we've met, right?

How unpleasant.

Since they were the Magician Society's escorts, they didn't sit down.

Celes wryly smiled.

「I'm sorry. Since I also have a high position, I can't casually be by myself.....」

That's natural.

If something unexpected were to occur to her, the barrier that protects this city would disappear. He had never seen a city that was in such a state but——if demonic beings or demonic beasts were to attack, he didn't think that the regular people would get away without any injuries.

Rather, to bring along no more than two guards, respect could be felt for this side——or rather, in regards to Rem.

Diablo largeheartedly nodded.

「I don't mind.」

It would seem that answer was offensive. The escort that was standing in front of Diablo warped his facial expression as if he were having a cramp.

「Oi, you bastard? What is with that way of speaking towards Lord Bordorel? I won't pardon you if you lack respect.」

What an arrogant sounding voice, is what he thought.

Celes, looking troubled, pacified the man behind her.

「Galark-san, that's rude.....They are the ones who kindly went out of their way to accompany us after all.」

「Lord Bordorel might not mind it but being made light of by this Demon whose origins we don't know of, it will affect the Magician Society's dignity!」

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

——Oi oi, so a simple escort is lecturing Chairman Celes about the what the society's dignity is?

He was over sensitive over other people's conduct, but it seems that he's insensitive to his own rudeness.

It looked troublesome to have to deal with him.

Diablo's real self, to be clearly said, had no communication skills. That had not changed even after coming to another world. When he tried to speak normally, the words wouldn't come out very well.

It was troubling to be despised but, though he wanted to pay his respect, he did not happen to possess the advanced art of conversation that would allow him to preserve his majesty.

Even if he didn't want to cause discord, firing off words flat-out was only his Demon King role play.

It would probably be safer to ignore him for now, is what Diablo concluded to.

The wire man didn't seem to consented but.....

Celes change the topic.

「Everyone, before we talk, let us have a meal. Since today is my treat, just keep on eating, okay?」

「Is that alright!? Really!?」

「Yes, have as much as you like.」

「Alright!」

Shera raise both hands in joy, and to the poster girl that came to take our order, she asked for this and that.

Before long, several dishes of food were carried over.

Large and small sausages with boiled potatoes, soup with mostly no ingredients, and white bread. There was also vegetables that looked like lettuce and eggplant and fruit that was shaped like apples and grapes.

The drink that was placed in front of Diablo looked similar to beer. In front of Rem and Shera there was fruit juice and wine was placed in front of Celes.

「Ya~y! Itadakimasu!」

Shera extended her hand to the food.

Looking at her reaction, he thought, even though it's like this, I guess this is a pretty great feast.

——It doesn't look all that delicious though?

Diablo tried biting the sausage.

Taking a moderately sized bite, the flavor of the rich meat spread throughout his mouth.

——Huh, this is delicious!?

It was a powerful flavor overflowing with rusticity.

Baku baku. Shera was eating with incredible vigor. It was enough to make one wonder where it all went in that thin Elf body. So that's it, that's why her chest is like that.....

Rem glared with a sidelong glance at the appearance of that Shera.

However, without making reference to that way of eating, she cut to the main question.

「.....So, Celes-san...By some chance, is it a talk about “that” again?」

It was a fed-up sounding voice.

Since she said something to Celes with a rude way of speaking, he thought that the wire man behind Celes would pick a fight again, but the man didn't have any particular reaction.

——Does that mean that for those men, Celes and Rem are of the same rank?

That would mean that from the people belonging to the Magician Society's viewpoint, she is a being that is seen as an equal to the Magician Society's Head.

Rem's situation was on the verge of bothering him.

Celes put both of her hands together as if she were begging for something.

「Rem-san, I was thinking “it would be nice if I could become your strength”, you know? I'm sure that you've had various hardships and that you might not be able to trust me but, could you at least understand that those are my true feelings?」

「.....I don't want to go to the Magician Society Headquarters nor do I want guards given to me.」

「But it's been dangerous recently. In other towns, there has been an outbreak of incidents where demonic beings have been tricking people to try and enter the barriers.....Though, if you were someone of the Magician's Society, I don't think towns that have been taken advantage of by the demonic beings would impose any trouble on you.」

「.....I am grateful for your consideration. But, I can protect myself on my own.」

「Do you, hate me?」

Celes made a sad looking face.

Rem breathed a sigh.

「.....I'm sure that I have said this before but.....in regards to your personality, I possess no distrust of you. However.....I do not know of any means on how to rely on others. It is because I manage things on my own.....Even from now on, I will continue on only using my own strength. With my own power——I will exterminate Demon Lord Krebskrem」

「The Magician Society might be able to investigate some means on how to deal with the slavery choker as well.」

Rem touched her choker.

「This is.....」

「It's not like it's attached because you want it to be, right? I don't think that a person such as yourself would be forcibly made into a slave.....Wasn't the slavery choker attached due to some kind of accident that not even you could have possibly imagined? And then, the owner of that choker is, Diablo-san over there——Am I mistaken?」

「.....No.」

「Hou.」

Diablo unintentionally let his voice leak out.

——That's some amazing insight.

To be able to guess the events of how the choker was attached, they shouldn't have said a single thing about it yet.

She probably speculated it from little conversation between the three.

That would supposedly mean that one cannot be the Society's Head with magic power alone.

Celes looked at Diablo.

「Please, I beg you. Could you please release Rem-san? She is an important person for this world. Naturally, we promise we will give you a suitable expression of gratitude.」

He had the feeling of wanting to release her.

However, something like the method of cancelling the slavery choker which was only something that existed as a setting, not even he himself, who had played the game quite a bit, knew how to do it.

Diablo shook his head.

「I have no interest in making others obey me using magic but.....as one who does not know the method, I cannot release her even if I wanted to.」

This should probably be conveyed clearly.

Celes breathed a sigh looking disappointed.

「Is that so. Since you seemed to be fairly skilled magician, I had thought that you might know things that I didn't but.....it would seem that we have no choice but to investigate from scratch.」

Shera made a displeased face.

「Nn~.....Since it was reflected by Diablo who is considerably strong in a magical power sense, even if you found a method, it feels like normal magicians wouldn't have enough power, doesn't it?」

「It was reflected? I see.....Then that would mean that we might require Diablo-san's assistance as we investigate the method.」

Diablo sighed at Celes and the others' conversation.

「To not be able to cancel your own magic, really, what an incompetent bunch.....Well, it's fine. If you know the method, say it. At that time, I shall lend a hand.」

Dan! The sound of the floorboards being hit was heard.

He turned his gaze towards it.

At Celes' back, the wire man had struck the floor with the end of his staff.

「You.....You bastard! What right do you have to refuse Lord Bordorel's request! Moreover, you enslaved this Rem Galeu-sama, you say!? Just what right do you have to do that!」

Hell if Diablo knew.....

Just now, they should have been talking about how there was an unfortunate accident and how it was impossible for Diablo to cancel it of his own will.

——There weren't any NPC that were as bothersome as this, were there? Celes stood up.

「Since it would seem that anymore than this would become a bother for you.....I'm sorry, everyone, even though I'm sure you're all very tired.」

Diablo didn't think that the conversation would get interrupted due to the guard's hysteria.

She might have a busy position, but it's too bad since it seemed like he was about to obtain just a little bit more information.

Rem looked downward.

「.....Celes-san.....Having declined going to the society and declining the talk about the guards, you might scorn me for being selfish.

However.....could I have you investigate.....the method to cancel the slavery choker?」

「Of course. I just want to protect you.」

Celes sweetly smiled.

It was a kind smile.

Rem lowered her head.

「Thank you.」

「Don't worry about it. But, if you ever change your mind, you can rely on me whenever you like, okay? The Magician Society has the need to protect you for the sake of the world.....And it's also because I think of you as something like a little sister.」

Celes turned her heel and left the bar.

The guardsmen also followed suit.

However, just as he was about to leave, the wire man glared at Diablo with hateful eyes.

——Well, I'm sure that we won't have many chances to meet again.

More importantly.

Rem had a significant secret with her.

Surprisingly, it was a secret that had the head of the Magician Society saying “to protect you for the sake of the world”.

There was no mistake that it would develop into a bothersome problem.

I should get to know about this, is what Diablo thought.

「Oi, you.」

「.....What is it?」

「The secret that you hold, it would seem to have extraordinary circumstances. My interest in it is surging up.....I shall allow it, tell it to me right here.」

「I.....can't do that.....」

She hesitated to say it.

It looks like she won't say it so simply.

Getting her to talk about the significant secret that she held to someone that she had known for only half a day was something that was pretty unreasonable.

However, this wasn't the time to withdraw.

——My intuition as a gamer is saying it. What Rem is holding is a “make-the-story-serious type” problem!

Usually, there's things like “the country's high positioned person went out of their way~” or “it can't really be said to people”.....

Those kinds of hidden circumstances are things that are revealed after several story quests have been achieved and the tale has its finale.

And then, there are a lot of times where “If I had known about this at an earlier stage, I could have settled this a lot easier, couldn't I?” could be said.

Hidden circumstances are presented after things have gotten worse. That way might make the story more exciting but.....

It's fine if it were talking about a game.

However, even if this place is another world, it's still reality.

He wanted to avoid risk as much as possible.

For Diablo, he wanted to resolve things before that something that Rem held appeared in front of him as a story quest.

——Even if I have to do it against her will, I'll listen to that secret, and destroy that story!

When he thought of things as part of a game walkthrough, he became assertive to the point that it was miraculous.

「Oi, you.」

「.....What is it?」

Diablo left his seat.

When he grabbed Rem's arm, who looked like she wasn't going to continue her meal, and made her stand up, he held her waist under his arm and lifted her up.

「You sure are light.」

「Wha!? Wha, wha, what are you planning to do!?!」

While stuffing her cheeks with who knows how many sausages, Shera looked up this way.

「*Hangungu!* *Gokuh!* Where are the two of you going? There's still a lot of food left, you know?」

Come to think of it, Rem had paid undue attention to Shera and seemed hesitant to talk. If he was going to listen to the secret, it would be more convenient if it were just the two of them.

Diablo headed towards their room.

「I'm going to torture her.」

The two of them became speechless.

For the cool-looking Rem to be astonished to this extent, it's kind of unexpected.

After Shera had stopped moving for a brief moment while having some white bread gripped in her hand,

「.....I, I'm, going to eat the food, okay!」

She averted her eyes.

Rem raised a crying-sounding voice.

「Y, you.....You.....Aren't we companions that travelled together for a little while!? Aren't you going consider even a little bit about the thought of trying to save me.....!?!」

「Even though it feels like you've been saying that I'm a stupid Elf this whole time!? Actually, just a little while ago, didn't you call me something like mold on the wall!?!」

「.....To not be tricked despite being stupid, what's the meaning of this!?!」

「You said it again!? You called me stupid again! I'm not going to save you anymore!」

「Th, those are words that only people who have the will to save are allowed to say!」

She was way too frightened.

The breaks on the Demon King speech didn't work. It's because, if he were able to do something that skillful, he would have conversed with them normally from the start.

Nevertheless, in order to try and relieve her just a bit, Diablo thought up some words. It's not like he'll take her life. He just wanted her to be frank with the circumstances she had.

「Ku ku ku.....There is no need to be frightened. I won't do anything like kill you.....Though, that's only if you quickly spit out your secret.」

Did that change the nuance a bit?

He saw a smile come up.

Rem had closed her eyes as if she had accepted it, and muttered.

「.....Would this life of 14 years be considered long, or short.....Otou-sama, Okaa-sama, it would seem that I will be heading to the other side as well tonight.」

It seems that it had the opposite effect.

Since there was nothing he could do about it, Diablo rapidly headed towards their room, carrying her under his arm.

Part 14

He returned to their room and locked the door.

Already, it was evening.

The room that was only lit by candles was dim, dim enough that they could only vaguely see the walls, the bed, and each others' appearance.

Since there were no chairs, Diablo sat Rem on the bed and gazed at her.

She was casting her eyes downward.

Her small panther ears were drooping down. They were shaking.

That's so cute.

He wanted to pinch them.

——Ahh, this isn't the time to be thinking that. I need to properly hear about her circumstances.

However, he didn't want to use any coercive measures.

She was someone that had the possibility of moving together with him from now on. He wanted to maintain a minimal connection with her.

「There is only one thing I wish to hear.....It is the reason why the Magician Society's Head went out of her way to visit you.」

「.....I won't say it.」

Rem's will was tough.

Although she looked frightened, she didn't seem to intend to confide her secret to him.

Diablo was perplexed. The reason why he wanted to hear the hidden circumstances from Rem was because he wanted to take measures before the distress quest that would eventually happen would occur. He wanted to

avoid making their relationship worsen, which could cause the problem to get bigger instead.

He decided to try to fill up the moat a bit more.

「Are you telling me to lend you my power while you keep secrets from me?」

「.....That's.....That's, true, but.....But, I don't want to talk about it.」

「Hou? Does that secret of yours bring about any disadvantages for me?」

「.....No.....It's because, if I were to tell it to you, I'm sure that you would also separate from me.」

It was a depressed voice.

Enough to make Diablo speechless for an instant——The Rem that was within the very dim light had lonely, desperate eyes.

She continued.

「.....I, have a repulsive secret.....If you were a summoned beast that were only strong, I probably would have talked to you about it. However, you are able to choose between me, Shera, or even a completely different path.....That is why, I am scared. I absolutely require your, the Demon King of another world Diablo's, strength.....But, if you were to know my secret, I am sure you would keep your distance from me.」

——So, in other words, she didn't want to talk because she was insecure.

Rem was afraid that after learning her secret, Diablo go away from her.

A repulsive secret, huh.

Moreover, there were probably people that kept their distance from her after learning about it. Enough to bear a wound on her heart.

——Even if I were to say that I'm fine with it, she probably wouldn't be able to believe me.

And then, there's no mistake that it was a pattern where things would be too late by the time he built up a relationship with her where she could believe in him.

If Diablo were doing a virtuous Hero role-play, that's probably how it would turn out.

He did not possess the communicative ability that would let him say the magic words that would erase Rem's grief.

There was not enough time to get her to believe in him, and he was lacking in the art of conversation to bring out courage within her.

——A Demon King should do things in a Demon King-like way.

Diablo smiled.

In an extraordinarily villainous way.

「I understand the reason why you do not want to say it. However, what I want to hear is about the reason why Celes had come to visit you. Did you think a Demon King would go easy on you?」

「Hii!？」

Rem tried to draw back, but she was already sitting down on the bed. But even so, she skillfully crawled up on top of the bed. To move her body so easily, as expected of a Pantherian.

Chasing after her, he pressed down on her shoulders.

Diablo was higher in both AGI and STR.

And above all, Rem was frightened and in a state where she couldn't bring out her usual abilities.

「Ku ku ku.....As I thought, it looks like torture is required.」

「Uuu.....A, are you.....planning on raping me?」

「Eh?」

He didn't have that idea.

Certainly, as he did pressed her down on top of the bed, he wondered why he didn't have that kind of idea.

Because he had a lifestyle where he couldn't remember the last time he even talked to a girl in his real life before, this was probably something reasonable.

Even in real life, he was naturally a solo player.....wait, that was just damaging himself.

As Diablo was staying silent——maybe having accepted it, Rem had tightly shut her eyes and was trembling.

Her eyelashes were long.

Her slender shoulders, and her slender limbs. Her miniature-like fingers.

Her cherry blossom color lips.

She had a somewhat earthy smell. Was it because Pantherians were of the Earth attribute?

Along with that, she also had a sweet aroma.

Her clothes that looked like a dress disheveled, and the hem of her skirt turned up, her white thighs could be seen.

——Cute.

This feeling of how she's so cute that if he were to touch her anywhere that he could only become a criminal was amazing.

The tears at the corners of her eyes glittered.

Although he had pinned down her shoulders, what should he do next?

He thought that she would do as she was told if he were to taunt and threaten her a bit but.....even threatening her made him feel sorry for her. With her black hair spread out on the sheets, she somewhat looked like a hug pillow or a "sleep together" sheet. No, it's the opposite. What was imitating girls was those goods.

Looking like they were hiding in Rem's black hair, her panther ears were also quivering.

Is it alright if it's around here?

He extended his fingers.

He pinched her tufty panther ears.

「Ei」

「.....Nn!？」

Thin. And then, the fur was soft and felt silky.

When he slid his fingers from the base to the tip of the ear, the sensation of the pad of the fingers streaming across the fur was, supreme bliss. And then, the feeling of moderate resistance when he stroked the puffed up fur, was also paradise.

Shuku shuku shuku (stroking), he savored the sensation.

Rem twisted her body.

「Ha, nn!？」

「What's wrong? Is it ticklish?」

「.....Y, yes.....Could I have you.....stop that?」

She had just barely managed to keep her cool attitude, but it would seem that her ears were fairly sensitive.

Diablo showed a smile.

「Well then, you should say your secret.」

「No way!？」

「So you're not going to say it. Well then, I have no choice.」

Gently pinching the panther ear, *shaku shaku shaku*, he increased the rubbing.

Bikun, bikun (Twitching), Rem had reacted.

「Han.....!? Ah! Ah! You.....can't.....!!」

「Fumu fumu, so it feels good at the edge of the ear?」

Whether he touched the hair ends or not, he was attacking the bare edge of the outline.

The light and repetitive skimming of fur on his finger was ticklish.

Rem was slightly trembling.

「Fuau!? Nnaaah.....N, no way.....Nn.....Ku.....Hafuu.....Nngh.....It, it tickle.....s.....」

Her cool attitude had completely flown away.

Her facial expression had crumbled, and she was gasping with a high-pitched voice that was different from usual.

Diablo's heart rate was also strangely going up.

「Then, how about the base?」

This time, he scratched the opposite side of the base of the panther ear. So that he wouldn't injure her, he did it with the impression of stroking her with the tip of the nail.

Biku, biku, Rem responded as if she were to hop up, and her white fingers grasped the sheets.

The sides of the sheets were turned up, and straw was peeking through.

「Ha! Ah! Nnnn!! D, don't.....nn ku.....That place.....Ah! If you rub that.....Ah, Aaahhhhh.....!! The back of the ear! Doooooon't!!」

「Are you going to say your secret?」

「.....I.....I.....won't say, it.」

「Such a stubborn one. In that case, I'll do this.」

At the base of the other ear, he used the fingertips of both hands, and with ten fingertips, he stimulated it.

Kori kori kori kori kori kori kori kori kori..... (scratching)

「Hiaaaaaaaaaa!?!」

The muscles along Rem's spine spasmed, and her waist rose up.

Disheveling her hair, when she tried to escape, she moved to the edge of the bed.

He thought "it'd be dangerous if she fell", but if he were to grab her arm or shoulder while she was struggling so much, he just might injure her.

To make a wound on such beautiful skin, even if the gods would forgive it, the Demon King wouldn't.

When Diablo covered her from above, he turned his left arm so that her head was within his arm and pinned down her right shoulder. With this, she probably wouldn't fall from the bed.

Although it looked like he pinned her down so that she wouldn't escape——he didn't have that kind of intention. Probably.

Even during that time, his right hand was caressing the panther ear.

「Hin! Nn, ah.....Nah.....T, that's.....don't.....my ear.....is tickl.....Kufuu, such a.....Nhaahh.」

「How about it?」

「Hyau!? Haa, haa.....Nnn.....Kuh.....I, I won't.....say.....Nn.....it.」

Because he was covering her, his own lips were too close to Rem's ear.

Maybe his breath got caught on it. But still, the reaction from that time was extremely good.

He tried blowing.

「Fu~」

「Fuaahhhhhh.....」

It was a completely different reaction from when he was stimulating it with his fingers.

It wasn't strong, but it felt like it had reverberated in her core.

Rem's breathing was disordered, her face was flushed, there were tears spilling from the corner of her eyes, her back was bent backwards, her fingertips were grasping the sheets, and the tips of her toes were stretched out.

Just one more push——is what he thought it would take. For some reason or another.

With clouded eyes, she stared at him.

「Haa.....haa.....haa.....Diablo.....」

「Do you feel like saying it?」

「I, I, can't any.....more.....Something this.....embarrassing.」

Oh crap.

So cute.

Enough that it looked like even he couldn't take it anymore.

「Rem, leave everything to me. No matter what circumstances you have, a Demon King will take it all in.」

While saying that, he opened his mouth.

Diablo held Rem's panther ear in his mouth.

With his lips, tongue, and teeth, he savored her soft part.

Those stimulations piled up on top of each other and made the short girl's body convulse.

「Kuhauuuuu..... ツ!? AH.....Aaah.....Nhaaaa.....Tsaaahhhhhhhhhhh———
—— ツ!?」

Within his arms, Rem quivered several times.

She continued to raise a scream that was loud enough that was surprised and wondered how such a loud voice could come out from such a small body.

「AhhhAahhhhhNnaguahAaahhhhhhhhh..... ツ!!」

After some remarkably grand trembling, Rem became limp and exhausted. In the end, even her screaming voice became hoarse.

With even the sound of her breathing having disappeared, he was a bit worried.

Diablo released his lips.

「Fuu.....」

「.....Uugh.....Hi, kuh」

Rem let out some sobbing.

——I made her cry!?

Diablo went on his elbow and raised his body.

「O, oi?」

「.....Uu.....Hih, kuh.....Uugh....Kuh.....Hikuh」

The area around her eyes was red.



Boro boro (appearing in drops). Transparent drops were overflowing and going along her cheeks.

Shoot.

Did he go a bit too far?

「Are you, hurt somewhere?」

「.....That's not.....I'm so hap.....py.....So happy.」

「Wh, what?」

Could it be, her panther ears felt that good!?

Rem talked with her sobbing mixed in.

「.....Uuu.....It's because.....you said.....no matter.....the circumstances.....y, you would take.....it all in.」

「Nn? Ah, o, of course.」

He felt like he said something like that in the course of things.

If it were some outrageous secret, what would he do.

——How could this be. I even thought that I'd go my whole life unrelated to things that would invite trouble from female relationships.

Rem calmed her breathing down.

If there was a water supply, he could at least draw some water, but unfortunately, in this world, drinkable water was a high-class item, and was something one couldn't buy unless they went to the bar's counter.

「Nn? No, come to think of it.....」

It was something that he couldn't do in the game due to the specifications, but this world's chemical elemental magic is greatly affected by his own imagination. If he could at least extract the moisture from the atmosphere, and if he were to do it with the gist of it being like a dehumidifier, it should be possible.

He decided to test it out a bit.

Diablo opened up the palm of his hand, and, in addition to that, he decisively imagined a small sized ice sculpture.

He didn't mind if the shape was simple.

It was a glass that he always used. That and, he gathered moisture from the air. Magic of the lowest level.

「《Ice》 as well as 《Water》 .」

Diablo's hand shined, and a glass of ice and pure water appeared.

Remembering the setting explanation, he estimated that he would be able to use it this way, but it was something he had to try out.

Rem's eyes became round.

「.....This, is?」

「A glass and water. Though, since it's a glass of ice, it's slippery.」

Supporting her back, he raised her body.

And then, he handed her the glass.

「.....ツ.....It's, cold.」

「Don't drink it all in one gulp. Do it slowly.」

When she held the glass of ice using both hands, although she was surprised, she moistened her throat.

If he could create products like glass and ceramics, it looked like it could be useful in more daily life things. In that case, would that make it earth attribute magic? That wasn't exactly his strong point. He decided to test it out when he had some time.

Rem took a breath.

「.....Hafuu.」

「Are you alright now?」

Since she did a small nod, he dispersed the glass of ice and the water.

When he became aware of things, he was sitting shoulder to shoulder with her on top of the bed and supporting that small back of hers. It was just as if he were embracing the shoulder of a lover.

——No, this is just, looking after her. Ah, I said that this was torture before, didn't I!

The reason why a person of Celes' caliber would visit a cheap hotel. And to hear Rem's secret were his objectives.

Rem was staring at him.

The eyes of a kitten, this was probably those felt.

It was like there was a small bit of fear and huge expectations were stuffed into them.

Diablo didn't urge her on.

Her cherry blossom lips opened.

「.....The Demon King Krebskrem's soul.....is sealed within me.」

「ツ!? I see.」

Diablo nodded.

Rather, Rem was the one that was surprised and made her eyes round.

「.....Eh? Is that it? Are you not repulsed by it? Do you not find that dreadful? Do, do you.....not.....hate me for it?」

「The Demon King Krebskrem's soul is repulsive? Dreadful? What are you saying, I am the Demon King Diablo, you know?」

「.....Th, then.」

「Celes said that she wanted to protect you. Going by that, it would be valid to think that the Demon King Krebskrem's soul would be released if you were to die or if you were kidnapped by the demonic beings. Furthermore, you don't know of any means to take it out right now. If you did have those means, you'd get surround by the war potential from around the world, take it out, and defeat it, right?. And then, the only one that knows about this would pretty much be Celes. Naturally including the people of the town, not even the underlings of the Magicians Society know about this. That's because I don't think that hysteric wire man would attach "-sama" to the one possessing the Demon King Krebskrem's soul. Those people only think of you, Rem, as an excellent Summoner. How is it? Did I get something wrong?」

Her eyes became round.

「.....Y, you are correct.....The soul's release, will be when I die.」

「Just in case, I'll make this inquiry. Did your mother also harbor the Demon King Krebskrem's soul?」

「.....」

Rem nodded.

So in other words, the Demon King Krebskrem's soul is hereditary. From mother to daughter.....

If this were the MMORPG Cross Reverie's settings, Diablo would've had great boos for the administration.

To burden the fate of the world on a single girl's shoulders, isn't that way too cruel.

Moreover, she was way too powerless as an adventurer.

「Hmph.....The "Gods" or what have you are unexpectedly not all that great. To force anything and everything on such a small girl then disappear.....Very well, I shall pulverize the likes of the Demon King Krebskrem's soul for you. Well, it is necessary to do some research on the method of taking it out for the time being.」

There should be more various things to be researched than what the Head of the Magician Society understood.

Next time, he would ask about those.

He got a big hit from searching for the secret.

There was no mistake that this was information that would be the key of the story quest that would connect to the game's ending.

Something like a worthless, tearjerking scenario, just who would play something like that in the proper order.

「Nn? What's wrong, Rem?」

「..... ツ!!」

She started shedding tears with much more vigor than before.

Waa waa (crying), she raised her voice and was crying.

「.....This was.....first, time.....didn'taway from me.....ツAahhh.....ツ!!」

Since it was mixed in with her sobbing, he couldn't hear her all that well. Come to think of it, she did worry about Diablo leaving her if she exposed her secret to him.

「Hmph.....You looked down upon me too much. On this Demon King of another world Diablo.....I am not a weak being that would separate from you for something of that level.」

Rem was sobbing, and he couldn't really tell what she was saying.

Before long, just like a child, she grew tired from crying and fell asleep.

Since they were already on the bed, he just placed the blanket on top of her just like that.

Her sleeping face is also cute.

——No, that's not what I mean.

This was the first time she showed a relieved expression. It was because she usually looked like she was bracing herself.

Diablo made a sigh.

「Still, she raised an amazing scream. Furthermore, she did cry and shout.....With a voice that loud, it was probably heard in the other rooms as well. Just how will I be thought of. Haa.....Well, it's fine since I'm doing a Demon King role-play.」

He needed to tell Shera that he was finished.

Also, for the time being, he thought that he should apologize to the poster girl for being so noisy. Though, he wouldn't say that it was because it concerned the fate of the world.

Part 15

After Diablo finished his tasks in detail, he left the inn.

The reason he went outside was because his body was feeling hot and he wanted to bathe in the night winds. The poster girl warned him that it was dangerous at night but.....

Honestly, he had a mood that felt like “who in this town could possibly injure him?”.

The town at night——

He didn't have a place of destination.

He decided to go to the West Gate and then go back.

In the sky, the moon and stars were sparkling. A staggering amount of stars were twinkling. And the moon was huge. Maybe because of that, even with just the moonlight, it was bright.

All of the shops were closed. No, only the bars were cheerful, and the clamorous talking voices and laughter could be heard.

There wasn't much pedestrian traffic.

The houses made of stone and ground were different from how they were in the daytime and looked cold.

From in front of him, there was a group wearing robes that he had seen before walking.

There were fifteen people in all.

Diablo was able to accurately grasp the number and location of the numerous people in the other party with just a glance. This wasn't a skill that was implemented in the game, but was more of a player skill that he had trained.

Their robes were the same ones that Celes' guards from earlier were wearing. In other words, they were probably magicians of the Magicians Society.

——To be walking in a group at this hour, I wonder what happened? Although he was bothered by it, he didn't have a reason to avoid them. Diablo slowly walked and passed by that group.

「Oi, you Demon over there.」

A provocative voice called him to a halt. It included a sound of sneering.

「Mu?」

Come to think of it, going by the settings, demi-humans are discriminated against by humans, weren't they. Demons should have been especially scorned.

Since there was absolutely no such conduct among the players, he didn't mind it.

Since he didn't want to get involved with them, he tried to ignore them and walk past, but he was approached by the other party.

「Oi!? A lowly Demon feels like ignoring me!? Even though someone like you is just a parasite that is kept alive by Celes-sama's kindness!」

——A parasite!?

The barrier that protects the town was due to Celes' magical power, but there was no reason for him to say such awful things, was there!?

Diablo recognized the man that came with such abuse.

If he wasn't mistaken, it was the wire man that was behind Celes and said nothing but complaints. He couldn't remember his name.

Diablo decided to reply.

「What is it, little one?」

「Guh!? You really are a rude one, aren't you! My name is Galark! Even though you're a lowly Demon, for you to call me, one who serves as a guard for the head of the Magicians Society, "little one", that's just impudent! Right, everyone!？」

Voices of heckling going "That's right, that's right!" were raised.

They subtly reeked of liquor.

——Uheh. Even though he was bothersome at the best of times, now he's drunk.

He became dejected.

「What do you want? I only remember being called to a halt by the little one.」

「H, hmph! Now is the only time you'll be able to say such things. That's right, I didn't like you the moment I laid eyes on you! Your attitude towards Celes-sama! Your attitude towards Rem-sama! Just about everything was impudent!」

——It looks like the reason he picked a fight with me wasn't just because of demi-human discrimination.

Rem was also a Pantherian and a demi-human, but he called her with a "-sama" attached.

Also, this is a minor detail but, he should have been calling Celes by her surname as "Lord Bordorel" in front of her. He also called Rem as "Rem Galeu-sama".

He's a guy that's two-faced, isn't he.

In any case, with something about Diablo seeming to have annoyed him, he was letting out that stress with the benefits of being a group and the influence of alcohol.

For this kind of person, it's best to not engage him.

「If you're going to make a racket, do it some place I'm not at. I don't possess ears to squander over a little one's bullshit.」

「You.....You.....I won't forgive you for that! Kufu!」

The wire man smiled.

It was an unpleasant feeling smile.

Having a bad premonition, Diablo focused on his opponent.

「Won't forgive me, you say?」

「Yeah, that's right! You should regret speaking that way to me.....No, to "us".」

——So he's relying on the advantage of numbers.

Once again, he counted the number of opponents.

It was still fifteen people.

Each and every one of them were competent enough, but to fight them all together, it was a bit of a bothersome number.

However, since Rem and Shera had expectations and were hoping he were a Demon King, he couldn't possibly withdraw here.

「Well now, aren't you people the ones going to be regretting things, and not me?」

「Fufun.....After this, you'll be begging for your life! Take a good look!」
Galark took out something from within his robe.

It was a crystal the size of a baseball.

Diablo recognized that crystal.

「A summoned beast, huh.」

「That's right! Having a status that is close to the Magicians Society's head, I am excellent as a summoner! I possess a summoned beast that crush the likes of you with a single twist! Now then, if you don't want to meet with a painful end.....kneel down! Why don't I have you apologize for the numerous impudent occurrences you have committed!」

Waa waa (cheers), the followers were getting excited.

Diablo tilted his head.

「Numerous impudent occurrences? What are you speaking of?」

He wasn't self-aware of it, but he wondered he did something. He probably did.

Because he was bad at communicating, this kind of trouble happened a lot, and was troubling. Even though he didn't have any hostility or ill will, before he knew it, his enemies increased.

——I knew it, something like human relationships is too much of an impossible game.

For Diablo who had come to this other world and continued in this Demon King role play, he thought that he was somehow able to interact with others but.....

For them to be aggressive towards him without telling him the reason like this, his craving to be a shut-in was welling up.

No, this man might just be special. Let's not abandon any hopes.

Galark's face turned red and he shouted.

He seemed to have gotten considerably mad.

「You damned Demon! I'll pluck your limbs and roll you around on the ground! If I do that, I'm sure that Rem-sama will surely recognize who should be on the side of being served and who should really be the one being useful!」

「You'll pluck my limbs, you say?」

「Fuhahahahaha! Come, 《Salamander》 !!」

Galark threw the crystal to the ground.

Breaking into small pieces, what appeared was——a lizard wrapped in flickering flames.

It was big.

Even though it didn't reach size of an elephant that is seen at the zoo, it was big enough that Diablo had to look up at it.

Clad in scales that were in the shape of flames, it raised its head, and flicked its tongue out. Its inhuman eyes that were peculiar to reptiles made those who looked at them feel fear.

Normally, one would probably stiffen up like a frog being glared at by a snake.

——Its appearance is still pretty strong looking though.

In the game, it was around the fourth possible fire attribute summoned beast that one could summon.

For its parameters, it's approximately the same as that of a level 20 warrior. Since the Summoner won't get any damage if it is killed by a monster, that could probably be called an advantage but.....

It's special ability was a fire attribute range attack called 《Heat Breath》. It gave the bad status of 《Burn》.

However, Diablo had a mantle called 《The Curtain of Dark Clouds》 equipped. On this, there was a Bad Status Prevention attached.

In other words, as an opponent, it wasn't a scary enemy. More importantly——

「.....For there to be a summoned beast within the town.」

That was something possible, but for Diablo, it was surprising.

In the game's case, attack type magic wasn't usable within the town. Attack magic and summoned beasts could only be used outside of town. In the Warriors' case, they couldn't swing their swords.

If you think about it, that's natural.

The only thing that separated the town and the outside was the barrier and that had no other function other than defending against demonic beings and demonic beasts.

The guards that would come running if one broke the rules only happened in the game. Because it was late at night right now, the figures of the guards weren't around.

Galark seemed to have misunderstood Diablo's surprise.

He took pride in his summoned beast and gloated.

「How is it! It's the level 30 summoned beast, Salamander! Long breath that could melt iron! Scales that won't let blades through! Destructive power hidden in it's huge build! Forget trained warriors, it's the strongest summoned beast that could even burn knights dressed in armor to death!」

Galark did a forced laugh.

Diablo was at a loss for words.

——So this world's levels were that low, huh.

The area of the Frontier Town Faltra in the game was an area with a suitable level was 60.

To think that the adventurers of that town were only people at a level that they could easily handled by a Salamander that was only level 30.

He couldn't understand the reasoning for this.

If it were like this, he should have fought with the monsters outside. Would level 60 enemies really appear in this area?

Maybe because he interpreted Diablo's pondering as dismay, Galark became elated and made a command.

「Now, apologise! If you do it now, I'll let you off with just a small burn!」
——What is this guy saying?

He picked a fight using a group on the street at night, set off a summoned beast that could “burn knights dressed in armor to death”, and repeatedly said “Apologise” without saying the reason.

This wasn't speech and conduct that one could just let off as him being drunk. It was way too aggravating.

「Enough of this, little one. Do not make me angry.」

「Kuh.....You bastard! You're not thinking that this is just a threat, are you!?!」

The surrounding company gave warnings to Galark's threatening attitude.

「O, oi, isn't battling within town dangerous?」 「Let's stop it with just this.」 「It'll be terrible if we get found, you know?」

However, Galark didn't stop.

He smirked.

「Battle? What are you talking about. What we're doing is punishment! He committed an impoliteness to our Celes-sama and unreasonably enslaved Rem-sama! In regards to this vulgar Demon, it's punishment!」

Reacting to Galark's spirit, the Salamander cried.

「Shaaaaaa———!!」

It had a snake-like voice, but it had a loud volume.

At the same time, it spit out 《Heat Breath》 from its mouth.

——It attacked!?

Diablo's field of vision was completely submerged in red from the flames.

He was bathed in it squarely from the front.

Galark raised a voice of madness and delight.

「Fuhahahaha! How is it, did you learn your lesson, you damned Demon! Burn! Burn up!」

His comrades of the Magicians Society made pale faces.

However, since they only looked and didn't stop it, they were of the same offense——is what could be thought, but what do you think?

The flames that enveloped Diablo vanished.

There wasn't a single injury.

The stone paving that was at his feet had melted and was liquified.

Despite it being a temperature to that degree, not even his clothes had been burned.

Thought, since they weren't normal clothes, that's natural.

「I guess that's about it.」

Diablo breathed a sigh.

——I knew it, the level difference is huge.

There was the old game-type saying of 『Raise your level and smack the laws of nature』 .

Even for the MMORPG Cross Reverie, the thing called level difference was something tremendous. Comparing level 150 and level 30, the difference was like comparing a tank and a child.

From Diablo's perspective, there not being damage was something natural. No, it wasn't natural. Since this was the first time he had squarely received an attack, he ascertained that his magic defense strength was as high as it was in the game, and it could be said that there was sufficient meaning in receiving it.

——Still, it did an attack that could kill if it were a normal person receiving it.

If Diablo didn't possess the strength of a Demon King, he would have died. This man made an attack that could kill just because he was someone that he didn't like. He needs a bit of "punishment".

Galark was shocked.

「Wh, what's the meaning of this? Why are you alive?」

For him, it appeared that the Salamander was the strongest summoned beast that he could believe in from the bottom of his heart. It seems that it was a miracle that Diablo didn't die from that attack.

To call a level 30 summoned beast the strongest, if it were in the game, it would have been thought of as some kind of gag or joke.

In other words, the level of the surroundings were low enough to cause such a sad misunderstanding. Though, Diablo wouldn't pity them.

Galark shouted with a nervous voice.

「One more shot!」

Again, Heat Breath was fired.

Since Diablo's magic defense strength undoubtedly exceeded it, it was clearly understood that he wasn't receiving damage.

In games, there are times when no matter how big the level difference is, there is a fairly good chance that the smallest amount of damage will get in. But only in Cross Reverie was there a shutout effect displayed.

Galark shouted at the guys around him.

「O, oi, you guys too! Take out your summoned beasts!」

The surrounding people that didn't feel as much hate or justification for Diablo as he did were indecisive.

「Uuu.....!? B, but, if we do that in the town, won't we get punished——?

「Just do it! I'll take responsibility for it! Quickly, quickly! Hurry it up!」
He's half-crazed.

Being effected by that enthusiasm, Galark's comrades also threw their crystals to the ground. The sound of many crystals breaking resounded. What appeared was sprites of several attributes.

《Sprite of Fire》 《Sprite of Water》 《Sprite of Earth》 《Sprite of Wind》 ——

The sprites were summoned beasts that had the silhouette of a bird. Not having eyes or mouths, red if they were fire, blue if they were water, yellow if they were earth, green if they were wind. They were flat existences that looked like they were cut out in the shape of crows from paper of those colors.

Nevertheless, each and everyone of them had the size of a Steller's sea eagle.

It had a size that, if it weren't for the fact that it was a magic-like being that could give damage just by touching it, it looked like a person could ride on its back.

Its main attack was doing a body blow after some high speed aviation, but it could also tear off the magic power that summoned beast are constituted of and fire it.

Fourteen of those appeared.

The Salamander was also in good health.

Galark regained his smile.

「Fu fu fu.....I don't know the reason why, but it would seem you're strong against the Salamander's long breath. However, what can you do being surrounded by this many summoned beasts? Well, I guess the last time we had to spread out an encircling net like this was when a demonic beast from the Man-Eating Forest had appeared. It's pretty much used in cases where situations that could already be considered "great disasters" occur. You should regret having opposed the Magicians Society!」

He was shocked.

It seems that before he knew it, Diablo had made an opponent of the Magicians Society, not Galark. Since it looked like Galark would eventually start saying something like 「I am the Magicians Society」, it was scary in a different meaning.

And then, judging by Galark's speech and conduct, he seemed to consider these summoned beasts as a fairly good bit of war potential.

Diablo wasn't fully satisfied. Something like the 《Sprite of ~》 was a summoned beast that was possible to summon at the beginning. Since the demonic beasts that appear from the Man-Eating Forest should approximately be level 60, when going against them, the sprites couldn't even become a shield.

It's a mystery.

——Why is this world's level so low when compared to the game?

There was a need to investigate this afterwards.

In any case, right now, these guys were the problem.

Galark's group had set off summoned beast just due to a personal grudge. He had thought that the Magicians Society was a bit more rational and neutral organization but.....it seems that it wasn't something that easy-going.

It was hard to believe that there was someone so self-centered in it.

「You people, are you being serious?」

The surrounding people were silent, but they didn't look like they were going to pull back.

Galark laughed.

「Fu, fu, fufufu.....Are you feeling timid? However! This situation, all of it is something that you invited, you know!? If you had known your place from the beginning, this could have ended without you dying!」

It was unfortunate, but he seemed to be serious.

If the opponent was coming to kill even after wiping the sparks that fell onto him, he wouldn't show mercy.

If there was intent to kill, both Humans and monsters were equally dangerous beings, and he couldn't do something as negligent as going easy on them.

「Don't expect any mercy from me, got it?」

「Die, Demon! Now, do it, summoned beasts!」

In accordance with Galark's command, the summoned beasts moved.

The Salamander's Heat Breath and the attribute sprites' long distance attacks drew near.

A stream of light of four colors.

However, Diablo didn't feel the need to avoid it.

No matter what attack it was, it was certain that it was lower than his magic defense strength. Besides, when multiple attribute attacks were simultaneously commenced, there were conflicts that would occur. For example, there were cases where a water attack would negate a fire attack.

——Do these guys not do multiple attack practice?

He could kick them about with magic but.....

It was a good opportunity. He decided to test out a couple of things.

First, he wanted to know this physical attack strength.

Being a Demon Magician, Diablo had low physical attack strength. However, since there were monsters that magic wouldn't work against, there were also times when he required direct attacks.

——Just how far will the current me be able to go?

Diablo approached the Salamander.

The summoned beasts were still attacking, but it only had the effect of irritating his eyes.

He stood in front of the Salamander.

It was big enough that he had to look up.

He couldn't help but pray.

——Please, don't let it end in one hit.

He wanted it to at least be durable enough for him to test out his physical attack strength.

Diablo swung 《The Staff of Tenma》 horizontally. It struck the nape of the the Salamander's neck.

For the resistance, it was as if he were brushing away fog.

And then, as if it were sliced with a sharp blade, the head of the huge summoned beast easily separated from the body.

While a red phosphorescence fluttered about, the Salamander was terminated.

Defeated summoned beasts would change into dark, muddied crystals and become unusable for a while. That was what tumbled on the ground.

Diablo breathed a sigh.

「It was way too weak.」

He wanted it to at least endure a single attack of a magic specialized Demon. Was it wrong of him to expect anything from something like a level 30 fire lizard?

Galark opened his eyes wide.

「Wha.....? Ah, n, no! Don't falter! J, just one of them has been done in! Wh, what are you doing, everyone! This is our chance! We, we need to defeat this guy! Kill him!」

「If you were going to run away, I wasn't intending on chasing you but.....I have no choice. I guess I should test out the attack magic's attribute compensation next.」

The game's way was that when the receiving side's attribute is the same or advantageous against the attacking side's attribute, the attack's power is attenuated.

Fire is strong against wind, wind is strong against earth, earth is strong against water, water is strong against fire.

In other words, in the case where a water attribute summoned beast is attacked with a fire chemical elemental magic, the power should fall considerably. He would check that.

Diablo turned his staff towards a 《Sprite of Water》 .

「Burst open, 《Explosion》 !」

The explosion caused by magic landed on the Sprite of Water.

In conclusion——the opponent was too weak to confirm the attribute compensation.

The 《Explosion》 that Diablo fired enveloped not only the Sprite of Water that he targeted, but also the other surrounding summoned beasts.

In addition, the explosion's after-effect gouged out the ground, smashed the stone paving and scattered it all about the area.

Not only did it damage the outer walls of the buildings facing the street, it also hit Galark and the other robe figures of the group.

There were fortunately no casualties but.....

The summoned beasts were annihilated.

——I messed up. I should have tested it with a bit more weaker magic.

Galark's knees gave way and he sank down.

「A.....annihilated.....In one attack, annihilated.....?」

It wasn't just him. The robe figured guys were in a state worthy of being called tragic. Those that burst into tears, those that emitted a strange voice, those that gave outbursts of anger to Galark, those that were dumbfounded.....

It would seem that despite being the lowest grade summoned beasts, to them, they were a powerful strength to be proud of.

It was a level that you could pass if you had about a week in the game though.

He at least understood that it couldn't be tested.

If he kicked them about this much, they would probably never pick a fight with him again. He thought positively about how one troublesome thing was solved.

When Diablo tried to leave, surprisingly, Galark sent out his voice.

「Y, you.....just what are you!? Impossible.....Something like this is.....impossible.....」

What was he?

He was summoned but he wasn't a summoned beast nor was he a member of the races of this other world.

He had plans of becoming an adventurer, but, right now, he was wasn't. Diablo glared at them.

The wounded all over and stupefied underlings of the Magician's Society.

Fear travelled through the group of robed figures.

The smile of a devil was turned towards them.

「My name is 《Diablo》 . I am a Demon King that came from another world.」

Chapter 2: Trying Out Being an Adventurer

Part 1

The next morning——

With the light that extended from the small window, Diablo woke up.

A ceiling he wasn't familiar with, walls that he wasn't familiar with.

Everything looked old and made of wood, yet was polished to a sparkle.

Maybe because he kicked the blanket away, it wasn't on his body.

The bed, which was just straw with a sheet placed on it, was softer than he imagined, but it was still hard. Though, thanks to his high level body, he wasn't really bothered by it.

When there was a random smell of grass, the small fragrance of compost interested him a bit.

He didn't know if the sheets were either made of cotton or of linen, but it was completely different from the smooth and soft fibers of the real world. They were rough and scratchy.

This place was another world that was really similar to the MMORPG called Cross Reverie.

When he opened his eyes, all of it was a dream and the day of the real world would start——that was the situation that It didn't turn out to be.

——I, really did come to another world.

While he thought that with an absent minded face, he squinted from the radiance of the morning sun.

It was a light that shined from a small hole as if the sun didn't want to show it's face, but with the light of the candle having gone out, in the room that was pitch dark, it was a light that was more than enough.

Nevertheless, he wasn't sure of when he fell asleep.

How he had confronted the guys from the Magicians Society should not have been a dream.

However, he was vague on his memories on his return back. He remembered going back to the room and collapsing onto the bed but.....

He became so sleepy that it was miraculous.

——A lot of things did happen yesterday after all.

He didn't really feel any hunger, fatigue, or sleepiness yesterday, but it would seem that all of that was due to excitement and tension of coming to another world. In actuality, he had enough fatigue that he would immediately fall asleep if he were to lie down.

In particular, he was tired after he used magic at night.

It wasn't damage.

The cause was from mental exhaustion.

Most likely, it was the MP consumption of magic, is what Diablo thought. Different from the game, it's not like it's confirm able with numbers, and there is a small sensation of fatigue accumulating from using magic.

If he were to use it all up, just what would happen?

In the game's case, he just wouldn't be able to use magic, but if it's just as it's name suggests and his mental strength³ disappears, he felt that there was no way things would end safely.

Using it all up was dangerous.

From here on out, he needed to worry about MP management more so than he did in the game.

If it was just 《Explosion》, Diablo possessed enough MP to fire a near hundred of them.

——Nonetheless, that's only about in the game.

——About how much MP does my current self have?

Since he was self-aware of the fatigue he felt from a few shots, firing near a hundred seemed impossible.

At any rate, there was a need to investigate it.

Also, it would probably be best to not use large, advanced level magic that carelessly consumes MP. Magic from above level 100 all have a different league of power and consumption.

——Well, going by how things went last night, it doesn't look like I'll be having any situations where I would have the need for that kind of magic any time soon.

Just why are the levels of the adventurers of this world lower than in the game?

This was a question that Diablo carried from the case with Galak.

This was also something that he should probably investigate.

——I still don't have enough information.

To start with, he decided to try asking Rem and Shera about the state of affairs in detail.

Come to think of it, sharing a room with those two girls, and, moreover, there was one bed——it was that kind of situation that would be impossible in the real world, but he went sound asleep.

His sleepiness was way too strong and he occupied the bed, but when he thought about it, he did something inexcusable. Just where did the girls go to sleep last night?

——Ah, come to think of it, if I die, the slavery will be released, won't it.

Was that a bit careless? No, both of them looked like they needed Diablo.

Rem in particular held a reason that needed as much trust as possible. And

³ Forgot to note this before but another reading for MP in this novel is 精神力, which is mental strength. On a side note, HP is 生命力, which is vitality or life force.

in Shera's case, she probably didn't have a personality that would assassinate someone in their sleep to begin with.

「For now, I guess I should look for those girls.....」

Diablo took a breath. And then, as he tried to raise his body, he put his hands to his left and to his right.

Muni

Monyun

There was a soft sensation.

Diablo was surprised and shrank back from the cushiony touch that not even the beds of the real world had reached.

Rather, it was the sensation of a living creature-like thing. It was warm after all.

——It couldn't be.

An impossible development crossed his mind.

「.....Alright, calm down, me. This isn't an anime or manga, and though I'm sharing a room with two girls, just because I don't see their appearances, I shouldn't be hasty in thinking something like that.」

He tried confirming it.

Diablo turned his eyes and looked.

The one that went *Muni* was——the Pantherian girl that wore only black, thin clothes on her body, Rem.

The one that went *Monyun* was——the Elf girl that covered her voluptuous body with only a loose robe, Shera.

It was above the clothes but, Diablo's right hand was touching Rem's breast and his left hand was touching Shera's breast.

He stopped his breath.

——Don't be flustered! I mustn't be flustered! Demon Kings don't get flustered!

He was gushing out sweat.

With his thoughts spinning around in his head, he somehow thought of what his next action would be.

Just like a Demon King, it should be dignified behaviour!

——Yosh! I'll gently slip out.

He was way too pathetic. No, it probably couldn't be helped. Although he was called a Demon King, it was just a role play. Something like waking up in between girls beautiful enough that they look like CG or touching the breasts of those girls, he was incapable of dealing with those things.

Diablo was level 150 as a Magician, but in personal skills——Especially with girls, his EXP was 0.

In order to quietly slip away, he first had to remove his hands from the two's chests.

He couldn't separate them.

It was as if they were stuck to them.

What is this, glue?

——My mind (heart), it's refusing to remove my hands!?

The temperature and the softness of the girls that he came in contact with, their sweet smell, it was all bewitching enough that it was more than plenty to crush his will.

His fingers moved on their own.

He was going to grope the two's chests.

Rem was moderate as her appearance suggested, and was a bulge that was great even when facing up. Or possibly, they were made to bulge up. Or maybe, it's better while they're bulging? It was that kind of feeling.^[2]

For Shera, they were amazing. His fingers sank in.

And despite sinking in, a proper amount of elasticity forced them back up.

He was starting to feel dizzy from the unbelievable springiness, and the volume that couldn't be fully held in Diablo's large hand.

——This world, does it by chance not have any underwear? Or do they take it off when they go to sleep?

The sensation was awfully direct, and there was no limit to the softness of it.

One thin cloth.

Most likely, this sensation had only one thin cloth to it.

Oh crap. I want to keep touching them like this forever.

The sleeping Shera let out a sigh.

「N.....fu, u.....」

She twisted her body.

Shera's eyes opened.

「Nn.....Huh, Diablo.....?」

Sa, Diablo tried to remove his hand.

However, his hand still didn't want to be removed. Even in this situation!?

Did it have a trap caused by magic cast on it or something!?

Shera tilted her head while she was rubbing her eye.

「Naa.....Nnn? What could it be, it kind of feels like, something's squirming.....」

Her eyes turned towards it.

Tightly holding on to her right breast, Diablo's left hand.

Shera's eyes went round and she looked at him.

Diablo, still holding her breast, opened his mouth.

「.....Ah~」

On top of groping a sleeping girl's chest, it was the time that girl woke up—

—What would a Demon King say, was something he didn't know.
Shera was confused for a short while, but she seemed to understand the situation.

Her face quickly turned red.

After that.

「Th, this kind of thing, it don't think it's very good!」

Looking embarrassed, she glared at Diablo with upturned eyes.

「Ah.....uu.....」

Unless he was doing the Demon King role play, his original self could even sufficiently hold a conversation. Not to mention, it was this kind of situation.

「Th, this kind of thing is, that is, how should I say it.....it should be after we get along better, or rather.....Umm.....A-as long as I'm not chosen as the master, it's absolutely not allowed, got it!？」

「Uu.....?」

That kind of sounded like “if you choose me as the master, I'll allow it”.

「Anyway, you can't! You can't, you can't! Because you can't! It's not allowed!」

「.....Ah, yeah.」

「S, since you already did it, you can't anymore, got it?」

Shera pulled her body back and Diablo's hand finally, although it looked reluctant to do so, separated from that sweet sensation.

He was thankful in his heart that Shera had forgiven him.

As usual, he was unable to go back to his Demon King role play, and he couldn't sufficiently bring out words.

At Diablo's right, Rem rubbed her eyes.

「.....Nya.....Nn? What is it, you're noisy.」

「Uu.」

「.....Nn? For some reason, it feels heavy around my.....chest?」

He forgot.

His left hand was groping Shera's chest, and he had just separated from her, but——

His right hand was still on Rem's chest.

Diablo was petrified. He was petrified enough that even if magic of the highest grade was used, it wouldn't petrify him to this extent.

Rem turned her eyes towards her own chest.

「.....」

Discovering his hand, and going along his arm, she looked at Diablo's face.

She went back and repeated that once more.

I can't believe this, is the expression that she was making.

He needed to say something.

Like a Demon King, possessing majesty, with magnificence! That's right, with magnificence!

Diablo opened his mouth.

「Rem, you should stick out your chest confidently. A bulge is also something to take pride in.」

What the heck am I saying?

In the morning of the inn, Rem's high-pitched scream resounded.

Part 2

The Bar on the first floor of the inn——

It was the bar that they had a meal with Celes yesterday.

This place that was composed of timber that had a smoked-like luster definitely was a bar at night, but it could also serve food normally in the mornings and afternoons.

Last night, it was cleared out by Celes and there wasn't anyone around, but this morning, it was crowded with people.

Diablo, Rem, and Shera had breakfast at the table they were somehow able to secure.

In the establishment, there were seven tables meant for four people and the counter, but they were already occupied.

There were also people standing around talking, and it was fairly noisy.

——They're all demi-humans

Diablo tilted his head.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, there were six races that one could choose from at the beginning.

They were

《Elf》 《Pantherian》 《Dwarf》 《Grasswalker》 《Demon》 《Human》 .

Of these, the races other than human were called 《Demi-human》 .

Going by Cross Reverie's setting, a portion of Humans seem to discriminate against Demi-humans. Especially people like aristocrats. There were several scenarios where that was the theme of the cause of the trouble.

Although there is a large variety of Demi-humans, there was also the setting that about half of all the people among the races were Humans.

Come to think of it, there were a lot of players that also chose to be Human.

It's because their initial statuses were blessed.

——It's strange that this establishment's guests and employees are all Demi-humans. Is it a coincidence?

From the side, Shera's face came near, and she talked with a whispering voice.

「.....Rem is really scary.」

Rem was silent and stabbing her wooden fork with a force that seemed like she had a grudge against the potato. Over and over.

She seemed to still be mad about what happened this morning.

As expected, even Diablo opened his mouth to try and apologise.

「Rem, this morning was.....」

「.....I am not mad.」

It was completely a mad voice.

「But still.....」

「I am not mad. Since I am not mad, I would like to have a different topic.」

Gusah gusah.

The pitiable potato was made into mashed potatoes by Rem's fork.

She seems to be the type that silently and deeply gets mad.

It couldn't be helped. Just as he was told to do, he changed the topic of the conversation.

「This inn is full of Demi-humans, and there doesn't seem to be any Humans, why is that?」

「.....Humans won't stay in a Demi-human inn.」

Since she was still in the middle of slaughtering the potatoes, she was probably mad, but since used her usual cool tone, he couldn't really tell.

「Fumu, so there are things like a Demi-human inn in this world.」

Though there were settings of things like “being discriminated” and “a lot of people that hate them” in the game, there was no actual showing of the discrimination being put into practice.

There were NPCs that had discriminative-like speech and conduct as part of the scenario, but.....

Since the players were all human, that was probably natural. He hadn't seen anything like a role play where people would discriminate against Demi-humans.

In this world, there seemed to be a gap between Humans and Demi-humans more so than in the game.

——It looks like I should be more cautious with Humans.

Being hurt for no reason was what the thing called discrimination was. Though, if he had a special situation where things like being Human or Demi-human didn't matter like Rem did, it would probably be a different story.

——The Demon King Krebskrem's soul is sealed in her, huh.

Diablo gazed at her.

Noticing that, she quickly covered her chest with her hands.

It's not like I was looking there, you know!? No, well, since this was after what happened this morning, he guessed there's no persuasive power in those words. There's no helping that he was being guarded against. More importantly, going by Galak's speech and conduct, he remembered one thing that bothered him. He used the vocabulary 『level』 .

「Oi, you two. In this world, is strength measured by the concept of the thing called levels?」

Shera opened her mouth looking like it was hard for her to say it.

「A level.....I.....don't have one, I guess.」

「.....I am a level 40 Summoner.」

Maybe because she cheered up a bit, Rem pridefully said it.

As he thought, it seemed to be an indicator that reveals a person's strength. However, this was a world that had neither status windows, shows for when experience is earned, nor fanfare of level ups.

「What are the standards that determine your level?」

「.....If you are a Magician, the Magicians Society has a standard that decides it. There is a method that determines levels. I don't know about the details for other occupations, but there are things like an examiner in the Adventurers Association that decides it.」

「That's right! That why, the reason why I don't have a level is because I still haven't done the Adventurer Registration, and if my level was measured, I'm sure it would be either 40 or 50!」

Her elf ears were moving about. So they can move.

Rem's black tail waved left and right. It was just like how a person waved their hand saying "No way, no way" to refuse an idea.

「.....No matter how you think about it, your level would be around 10.....From the standard, 10 is low after all.」

In other words, it seems that the average level of this area is around 20.

Shera puffed out her cheeks.

「That's not gonna happen! After all, in the Elven country's Association, I was level 40!」

「.....In the Elven country, was it a Magician determination?」

「Umm.....That's.....as an Archer.」

「.....If your level was determined, wouldn't the Adventurers Registration know about it? If the registration was finished in some town, there isn't a need to do it in another town.」

「I was at an age where I couldn't become an adventurer, but I only had it determined. I did it with the impression of something like trying my ability. It's because I was still a kid.」

「.....So you were level 40 as a child. There's no doubt in your talent as an Archer.....Then why do you want to become a Summoner?」

「Archers stay all alone, you know!? If you're a Summoner, there are a lot of cute Summoned Beasts, right! It won't be lonely in places like the dark, night forests!」

「.....So you wanted a cute Summoned Beast, is it.....Is that so, is that so. In that case, you don't need Diablo then. In the first place, he isn't a Summoned Beast after all.」

「Strength is also important!」

It was an atmosphere that looked like a fight was about to start.

Diablo talked as if giving an order instead of mediating between the two of them.

「After we've had our meal, we're headed to the Adventurers Association.」

Shera leaned forward.

「Alright! I'll do the Adventurers Registration and then I need to make money! If I'm together with Diablo, I don't have anything to worry about!」

「.....Putting the stupid Elf aside, I was also thinking that I wanted to take Diablo to the Adventurers Association. I am interested in your level.」

Level 150 was, in the end, just talk from the game.

Just how was he in this world?

He wasn't weak. That's what he truly felt, but he was thinking that he wanted to know in detail how far his level went with this world's standards.

With that decided, let's quickly finish breakfast.

Diablo extended his fork to the potatoes that weren't turned into mashed potatoes.

Part 3

The Adventurers Association was located in the western part of Faltra. It wasn't that far from the inn.

It was a building made of stone and its roof was triangular. The door was made of wood——these were the characteristics that it had in common with the building it was lined up with, but the Adventurers Association could be recognized with a single glance.

The building's size was about three to four times bigger than the other buildings.

The doors and the roof, even the structure of the windows was big. It was as if something that was one size bigger than the other citizens was living there.

Diablo's group went through the huge door and entered the Adventurers Association.

Inside, it looked like a bar.

It was similar to the one at the inn. As expected, with the counter that used timber that gave off a smoked-like luster, and the tables lined up, the impression of being very spacious seen from outside stayed the same.

However, the one at the inn had a sense of cleanliness. This place had dirt that stood out and even had broken chairs.

There were dark red stains that looked like blood stuck on the wall, and there was a strange intimidating air on the counter that was carved up with sword cuts.

Even the atmosphere of the people inside was different from the many townspeople that went back and forth in the town. And then, even though they had the same physique as in the game, a strange intensity could be felt. A sharp eyed Human man that looked this way.

A Pantherian woman dressed in clothing that looked like a dancer's with lots of exposure.

A child-looking, short Grasswalker boy carrying a large sword on his back.

A calm-looking young Demon man wearing a white robe.

A Dwarf man equipped with dogged armor.

——I didn't see those kinds of dangerous guys in the game, though?

It would seem that a quarrel broke out.

An Elf woman and a Dwarf man were quarrelling, but before long, they took out their hands.

Since the surrounding people stood up out of their chairs, when he thought that they were going to stop the fight, they removed the tables, made space, and cheered.

A fist fight started.

It would seem that there was a single quest that went around, and it became a fight over who took it first.

——What the heck is with this barbaric room!?

Diablo received a shock.

The Adventurers Association was in the game as well, but since that place only had chat windows flying about, it didn't involve fights, the stench of liquor, and yells that sounded like beasts.

Even the scramble for quests didn't exist. Anyone was able to take on the same quest.

However, these were 《Adventurers》.

In the game, it was the general term used for players.....

In this world, it was the general term for those that fight and do life threatening jobs due to various circumstances.

If Diablo was alone, he might have been intimidated and gone back to the inn.

He understood the reason why Shera, who should be excellent as a bow-user, didn't do the Adventurers Registration alone.

It would seem that there were people that noticed them.

They tilted their heads.

「.....What is up with that Demon?」

「People that grow horns, I've never seen that even among Demons. He couldn't possibly be a Demonic Being, could he?」

「The ones with him are Rem-san and that Elf Onee-chan carrying that surname, right? But both Rem-san and that Elf girl should be fairly skilled.....?」

「Those are, slavery chokers, aren't they?」

「That Demon, just who is he?」

It would seem that the effect of 《The Distorted Crown》 made them think he had genuine horns.

Being equipment he chose for its ability, he didn't worry about the appearance changing effect of 『making him look like horns of that of a devil were growing of from him』 at all but.....

He didn't think that it would become the cause of the strange eyes being directed at him in another world.

However, he couldn't take them off at this point. If a Demon King were to

suddenly take off his horns, he would surely be a spoilsport.

Rem ignored the strife and pointed in the direction of the stairs.

「.....Let's go. It's a bit noisy but.....It's what usually happens. It's because the Adventurer Registration is done on the second floor counter.」

「Umu.」

Hiding his internal unrest, Diablo nodded.

Shera was afraid of the people that were openly fighting.

「U, un.」

The three of them headed for the stairs.

Part 4

「Wait, horn growing Demon!」

The one that called him to a halt was a young Human man.

He had thick eyebrows and features that made him look like his will was strong.

His stature was tall and slender, and even though his hair in the back was short, a portion of his forelocks was long and hung in front of his face.

Wearing glittering gold armor on his whole body, he carried a long sword on his waist.

Rem grimaced.

「.....Emil」

「Gege」

Shera also grimaced and made a disgusted-looking face.

The young man called Emil rudely approached. He stood in a way that got in Diablo's way.

He took a long hard look at Diablo's face, and laughed with a *Fu*.

「You've got a evil looking face, don't you.」

Diablo asked a question to Rem.

「What is with this guy?」

「.....This person is the Warrior said to be the strongest in the Adventurers Association. He should also be working as the examiner for the Warrior-type occupations.」

She disinterestedly informed him as if she were reading an explanatory note or something.

Emil combed his long forelocks up.

「That's it exactly! My name is Emil Byushelbeljel^[1]! I am the Association's number one 《Herculean Warrior》 that boasts a level of 50!」

It was an unnatural, theatrical, smug-like way of introducing himself.

Diablo naturally prepared his staff.

When he played the game, he often received challenges from opponents that introduced themselves like this, and he kicked them all about.

——No, calm down. This isn't the game nor is it my dungeon. He's not necessarily a challenger.

Abasing himself to someone inferior would harm his majesty in regards to Rem and Shera but there was also that matter with Galak. It would probably be better to not have any speech or conduct that would pointlessly incur another's enmity.

He kept in mind his usual interactions so as not to provoke him.

「Whose permission did you acquire to name yourself in front of me, brat?」

Not only Rem and Shera, even the other adventurers were astonished and stiffened.

Emil expressed a daring smile.

「Permission? Fu, same to you, whose permission did you obtain!? Listen up Demon, you might not know this, but I absolutely love women!」

「Ha?」

「You who put chokers on Rem-chan and Shera-chan and paraded about with them, I won't forgive you for that! To make those two your slaves, there's no mistake that you've done a lot of evil things!」

From the adventurers, voices that went 「That's right! That's right!」 and sympathized with Emil were raised. It seems that at some point, their fight over there had been settled.

There was a misunderstanding made.

Many misunderstandings would be made since he was doing something like a Demon King role play, but Diablo was a pacifist. He didn't like unnecessary trouble and didn't want to have conflicts with other people. And above all, this kind of “believing themselves to be justice and in the right and don't doubt it” guy was his opponent.

Speaking gently, he decided to turn a blind eye to him.

Diablo opened his mouth.

「Don't make a fuss over something as small as chokers being put on women, you small fry.」

Emil raised one eyebrow.

「Fufun.....If you want to release the two of them, come at me with everything you got. So that's what you're trying to say!」

That's totally wrong!

Come to think of it, since he had used the Demon King role play against

challengers, there was always a battle after the conversation.

Could it be that it's not suited for evading trouble?

——But, if I don't do the Demon King role play, my words won't come out and turn into replies like 「Ah~.....uh~.....」 and stuff.

And then, the guy that is self-confident in fighting would misunderstand and go 「You getting cold feet?」 and then start smirking.

There's no helping it. Let's give up on persuading him.

Diablo avoided Emil and tried to go to the second floor. Because he was going to be a Magician, he had no business with the Warrior's examiner. However, Emil didn't let him pass through.

「Hold it! You're not getting away from here until you release the girls!」

Rem made a pained looking face.

Shera also looked like she was perplexed over something.

From the girls' position, being frank about something like getting the slavery chokers stuck on them from their magic's failure and then not knowing the method to cancel it was something embarrassing.

In order to request for Celes' cooperation in searching for the release method, there was a need to talk about it.

However, there was no need to talk about it to other adventurers.

If only Emil didn't get involved!

He fully understood the reason why Rem and Shera made displeased looking faces when this young man had called out to them. In short, this guy was nosy and obstinate.

Rem opened her mouth.

「.....Emil, actually, these chokers are」

Diablo interrupted her words.

He didn't want to give them any embarrassment.

Failing in their magic and becoming slaves to a Demon of unknown origin——I don't want that kind of failure story to be talked about in front of other adventurers, is what he thought.

Diablo prepared his staff.

「If you are going to obstruct me, no matter who you are, I just have to kick you out of the way.」

Emil unsheathed his sword.

「The chokers that you forcibly placed on Rem-chan and Shera-chan! I'll have you remove them! This Emil Byushelbeljel is the guardian of all women! Learn that the great me will not fall in front of women!」

The feeling of accepting a challenge was actually nostalgic.

Against the sword, Diablo unconsciously took some distance. When battling, confronting the opponent with a distance that was advantageous for yourself was something as natural as taking a breath.

——For the opponent, it might look like I'm afraid and shrinking back though.

If he's level 50, he should be able to use some fairly good 《Martial Arts》. Martial Arts were the special techniques that the Warriors and the Archers used. It wasn't just attacks due to a sword, it was even for axes, spears, bows, and bare fists.

It was the general term for fired attacks that consumed SP^[2], or techniques of defense or movement.

By the way, SP is different from HP and MP and automatically recovers.

Moreover, it's fairly fast.

Diablo did not possess Warrior-type abilities.

However, understanding the opponent's abilities is a foundation of fighting. Looking at the preparation actions, he understood what kind of attack was coming.

——《Sword Smite》, huh.

It was a Martial Art that used a sword where, from a posture that lowered the waist, they would get close enough to where they were right in front of the enemy in an instant, and unleash a powerful horizontal slash.

Since the Warrior-types aren't worth considering unless they get close to the enemy, many players used this at the beginning of their attack.

However, putting aside if it were a monster battle, something like a planned "horizontal slash" wouldn't hit on a player opponent.

An experienced player would use only the charge part of 《Sword Smite》, cancel the horizontal slash, and connect to the next attack.

If drawn into a move reading battle at close quarters like a hand-to-hand fighting game, it would be the Warrior-types' pace.

Normally, he would first defend against the charge with a barrage of magic but.....

——If I were to destroy the Adventurers Association's building, that would be bad, wouldn't it?

「Hmph.....How troublesome.....」

「Here I come, Demon! I'll have you release the two of them!!」

Emil came with an assault.

And then——

Diablo was surprised.

——He didn't cancel the horizontal slash!?

He received it with 《The Staff of Tenma》.

Emil made a surprised face.

「Hou, so you stopped my attack! You Magician!」

「Are you not taking me seriously?」

「Don't look down on me! For the sake of women, I always use all of my strength!」

While saying that, Emil grandly held his sword aloft.

The next Martial Art that was invoked was the “high in power but long in time until it strikes” 《Alpsfall》 .

Diablo groaned.

「How could this be.....」

Not only were the levels of the people of this world low, their player skills were also shoddy!

Using 《Alpsfall》 at point-blank range is just like saying “please go ahead and hit me”. He couldn't see it as anything but a spontaneous discharge due to an operating miss.

They were completely insufficient in their research.

Diablo used his staff like a cane and thrust Emil, who had brandished his sword and was full of openings, away.

Since he hadn't learned any Martial Arts, it was a common attack from a staff. However, it was by the physical strength of level 150.

「Sei!!」

「Gah!？」

Emil was blown away.

Smashing a wall decoration, he spit the air out from his lungs. Tumbling down, he took a knee beside the stairs leading to the second floor.

The adventurers that were watching in the surroundings returned to being quiet.

——Was it too strong!?

However, Emil stood up.

「Guooooh!! How could the great me! Fall in front of a woman! It's impossible!!」

Unexpectedly, he was a man with guts.

——No, if he's a level 50 Warrior, I guess that's natural.

It seems that with a Magician's common attack, damage enough to make him incapable of action wasn't given.

If the opponent were to do a series of gapless attacks without using big moves, as expected, worrying about the building and winning without using magic would probably be impossible.

——Can't he just fall back already?

Diablo expressed a sadistic smile.

「Kukuku.....I can't go easy on you next time, got it?」

「That's the same for me! I am the Association's number one 《Herculean Warrior》 , Emil Byushelbeljel! For the sake of all oppressed women! Until this life comes to an end, I will wield my sword!」

「.....Emil.」

Rem quietly called out.

「Be at ease, Rem-chan! I'll release you from this heinous Demon right now!」

「.....Please stop already. Allow me to say it to you clearly. The cause of why I am stuck with this slavery choker is due to my own blunder.」

「Eh?Wh, what.....what do you mean by that?」

「.....I don't want to go into detail about it but Shera and I made a blunder.....and got the chokers that should be bestowed onto the Summoned Beast onto ourselves.」

Rem bit her lip.

Shera made a face that looked like she was about to cry, and her cheeks became red.

——So she went and said it.

It seemed that she couldn't let Diablo and Emil's fight intensify anymore than this.

「.....He has promised to cooperate in removing these slavery chokers.」

「Wh, what was that!?」

「.....Though, right now, since we do not know the release method, we have gotten Celestine-san to investigate it.」

Emil raised a frail voice.

「Could it be, I.....」

「.....You jumped to conclusions. Please sheath your sword.」

A cold, wintry atmosphere streamed in.

After Emil had a brief silence——he smiled.

「Fu, fufufu.....Thank goodness! So there weren't any women that had slaver chokers forcibly placed on them!」

He ended it as if it were an impressive tale.

It was a refreshing smile.

「Hey, Demon, what's your name?」

「It's Diablo.」

「My name is Emil Byushelbeljel! I'm an ally of all women and an ally of the allies of women. In other words, Diablo, if you're cooperating in removing Rem-chan's and Shera-chan's chokers, I'm also your ally!」

「Is that so.」

「I'm really sorry for suddenly trying to cut you down! Whenever you need a Warrior's strength, you can rely on me whenever you need it! Well, you're pretty good yourself!」

「Fu.....」

Diablo laughed.

——Well, he doesn't seem like a bad guy.

Besides, he received Diablo's physical attack that defeated the Salamander in one hit and was still lively. It probably wasn't a lie that he was a level 50 Warrior.

Emil stepped aside from the front of the stairs.

「Sorry for getting in your way. You're going to the Adventurers Registration, right? If you're choosing the Warrior system, let me determine it from the earlier attack.....Fumu.....As a Warrior, I'd say you're around level 40!」

The surroundings became noisy.

He understood that level 40 Warriors seemed to be highly appreciated.

——Oi oi, are all of these guys lower than that? This isn't the town at the starting point you know?

Diablo swung his head left and right.

「I am a Magician.」

「What!? That is unfortunate.....Well, I guess it can't be helped.....Diablo, once you've finished your first mission as an adventurer, come visit me! As a celebration, I'll treat you to anything!」

「Hmph, if I feel like it.」

Being sent forward, Diablo's group went up the stairs going to the second floor.

Lined up beside him, Rem talked.

「.....Emil isn't a bad person, and he definitely is competent.」

「But that person feels stupid, right!」

「.....That's true.」

Rem didn't object.

There was an unexpected accident, but they were finally at the Adventurers Registration.

——Since it looks like they'll celebrate if I finish my first mission, I'll do my best.

Remembering when he first started Cross Reverie, he felt an excited elation.

Part 5

When they ascended the wide, shallow, wooden stairs, they arrived at the second floor that he recognized from the game.

Going by the building's structure, it had become something like a loft. One could look down at the first floor's bar from the second floor.

And then, there was the Adventurers Registration counter.

Even though this was the first time he had seen it, it was nostalgic.

Its structure was probably something similar to the counters at a bank or a public office. There was the wooden counter and three receptionist girls. If it's just like how it was in the game, in order from the right, they should each give referrals to 《Elementary Quests》, 《Advanced Quests》, and 《Story Quests》 respectively.

The three receptionists had the same face.

If their clothes weren't different colors, you couldn't tell them apart.

Incidentally, from the right, from the right, they were green, yellow, red.

They were just like a traffic light.

If he remembered correctly, the setting in the game was that they were triplets.

The girls were Dwarves.

Dwarven women were short even when they grew to adulthood. However, unlike the child-looking Grasswalkers, their breasts would get big and were the so-called “transistor glamor” type.⁴

And, they had dog-like ears and tails attached to them. All three of the receptionists were lop-eared like labradors.

Diablo naturally went and stood in front of the yellow-clothed receptionist that was in the center.

His sleeve was pulled by Rem.

「.....Over there is where requests meant for those that have achievements as adventurers are handled. Registration is done with the person in green clothes on the right.」

「I see, I did it out of habit.」

Story quests weren't added all that often after all, and the last time he took up an elementary quest was probably more than two years ago.

——This sure is nostalgic, it's been really long since I've talked to the “green girl”.

The receptionist on the right was called “green girl” by the players. Once all of the elementary quests were finished, something like 「You've graduated from the green girl!」 would be said.

When he got up to here, he had an excited feeling from this being something like a second playthrough of the game.

Diablo stood in front of the green-clothed receptionist.

In the game, she wouldn't move an inch until she was talked to.

However, in this world, the girls were also alive.

Seeming to be flustered, the green girl tried to tidy up the documents on top of the desk but they dropped to the floor.

「Awah, awawawawawah.....」

「We came for the Adventurer registration but, is it alright?」

⁴ “Transistor glamor” is talking about women that are petite but are physically attractive.

「Ah, hya, fu, fuai! Adventurer registration, right! Welcome! I, I'll do my best~.」

Rem put in a good word from the side.

「.....This person is, my acquaintance.」

「Ahh, so he is Rem-san's acquaintance? Ho.....In that case, it looks like it will be alright. Thank goodness. I was wondering what I would do if he was a scary person.」

「.....Though he is a terrible person.」

Rem stroked her ears with her fingertips.

Her cheeks were a bit red.

Diablo cleared his throat.

「Hurry it up.」

In the game, it would continue with name entry, selection of gender and race, selection of occupation, and condition, which was what the initial parameters were called, but his name, gender, race, and occupation were already decided.

There was technically an event one's current level was measured even in the game.

How all players were told 『It looks like you're still level 1.....B, but, if it's you, you'll instantly get strong!』 was a rite of passage.

Green girl explained while she tidied up the documents.

「Umm, now then, your name——」

Shera stuck her head out from Diablo's side.

「We're finally at the Adventurer Registration! Hey, hey, can I go first?」

She looked extremely happy.

Her eyes were sparkling.

Even if it was Diablo, he felt uneasy going only by information from the game. If it's going to happen anyway, it would be better for the level measurement to be on the high side. I guess I'll do it after seeing Shera's situation——is what he thought.

He generously nodded.

「I don't mind. Go ahead and register first.」

「Alright!」

Shera delightfully raised both of her hands.

When he looked at this carefree smile, he started to want to yield it to her without any self-interest put in.

This is bad.

——Am I surprisingly the supporting type? That can't be.

Part 6

Diablo stood behind Shera together with Rem and watched over the course of events.

The elementary quest receptionist——Nicknamed “Green girl”, took out a single sheet of paper from the scattered documents.

「Now then, please down your name and country of origin.」

She held out a feather pen and an ink bottle.

Shera took those and started writing characters.

——Come to think of it, we can communicate our words, but I can't read the characters.

“I'll have Shera do my part too”, is what Diablo secretly decided.

While letting out her voice, Shera filled out the necessary information.

「Ka~y. Umm.....Shera L. Greenwood.....Origin is, Greenwood Kingdom.....」

The receptionist made a strange face.

「.....Are you the Greenwood Kingdom's, Greenwood-sama?」

「That's right, what about it?」

Shera tilted her head in confusion.

——This girl, so she really does have that kind of position?

Diablo reflexively exchanged glances with Rem.

Green girl confirmed the documents.

「Uh~m.....Ah, right, there's no problem. Now then, I'll measure your occupation aptitude. Please tell me if you have any aspirations. If you don't, I'll take measurements for all three of the occupations, 《Warrior》 ,

《Archer》 , and 《Magician》 .」

「《Summoner》 !」

「Okay, so the Magician measurement. Next, once you have confirmed the explanatory items on this contract, please put your signature and seal of blood at the lower right.」

「So something like a seal of blood is needed!?!」

「Y, yes. After all, it is a contract that says that the Adventurers Association won't be sued even if you die.....」

She placed a small knife on top of the counter.

Diablo started to feel shaken.

However, Shera took it as if it were nothing.

「It's hurts, doesn't it, a seal of blood.」

She did a small cut to her thumb.

After the blood that came out from the cut and turned into something like a ball, she pushed her thumb against the lower right part of the paper.

While holding the thumb that she cut in her mouth, Shera turned around.

「Next is the aptitude test, right! Rem! I'll definitely show you that I'll have a higher level than you!」

「.....That's obviously impossible.」

「Ah, please heal the cut on my thumb! You have some kind of healing-type Summoned Beast, right?」

「.....Just put some spit on it.」

「That's so mean!」

The two of them began to noisily get along.

——I see, I thought that the reason she didn't listen to what other people said was because she was an idiot or something.....but it was because she had that kind of upbringing, huh?

Green girl talked to Diablo.

「Uh, uhm.....the person over there, if you'd like, could you fill out the documents now.....Since you're R-Rem-san and Shera-sama's acquaintance, it'd be faster to, take the aptitude test, but.....I, I've said something intrusive!」

「No.....You didn't say anything wrong.」

Shera held out the feather pen.

「Here, next is Diablo's turn!」

「Hmph, I don't like doing trivial work such as that. You do it.」

「Eh!? Is that alright!? Yay! It's kind of like I'm the master, isn't it!」

Rem scowled, but she didn't scramble to write on my behalf.

Green girl pointed at a blank form.

「Uh, uhm.....The signature and the seal of blood, can't be done through proxy.」

「I know.」

——Though, I don't want to have any pain.

Since he wouldn't sue them even if he died, he wanted to be exempt from the seal of blood.

Shera sparkled as she filled out the new blank form.

「Name is, Diablo.....And, what's your surname?」

「I don't have anything like that. I.....am a sole and absolute being. Or could it be that I need a surname?」

「How about it?」

The green girl made a taken aback expression from Shera's question.

「N, no! That is.....Demons often go through painful experiences after all.....Uh, um, I don't mind if it's the country you're from or if you just leave it blank!」

Some kind of misunderstanding was made.

However, since it was convenient, he decided to continue on like this.

The occupation he was hoping for was, naturally a 《Magician》 .

Shera moved away from the front of the counter.

「What's left is the signature and the seal of blood!」

「Umu.」

Before that, he read the explanatory items, just in case.

He wasn't the type to read every user agreement when making an account but.....this was a world where they had things like slavery chokers. He couldn't be negligent.

It seems that things like the Association not taking responsibility for any and all deaths and injuries, that the laws of the country and the regulations of the town take precedence over the Adventurers Association's rules, and that criminals will have their qualifications suspended were written.

——Fumu fumu, it doesn't look like there is anything unreasonable.

Consenting to it, he wrote his signature with the feather pen.

Since the writing was more like symbols than characters, he wrote his signature with the alphabet in cursive.

To think that his dark history of practising writing his character name in cursive in secret would be useful in a place like this!

Rem, Shera, and the receptionist gazed with great interest at the shape of the signature that they weren't familiar with.

「Now then.....」

Diablo picked up the knife that was placed on the counter.

This kind of thing was just like an injection and once there was hesitation, it was scary. It won't hurt. It won't hurt. Even Shera made a face like it was nothing at all.

Kyu. He closed his eyes and hit the tip onto his thumb.

It really hurts!

Red blood flowed out from the fingertip.

Glugging down.

He cut too deep!

——It would seem that when I injure myself, the physical defence from the 《The Hollow of Jet Black》 that I have equipped and the defensive barrier for magic don't activate.

As if! This wasn't the time to be leisurely thinking such thoughts!

Blood fell onto the counter.

Rem and the others were being flustered.

Cutting too much in something like a seal of blood was embarrassing.

Making a face like it was natural, while the blood was dribbling, he pressed his thumb beside the signature. Rather than a seal of blood, it was more like it was bloodstained.

There was a prickling pain.

However, it started to calm down.

The bleeding quickly stopped, and the cut that was too deep for a seal of blood slowly started to close.

This was probably due to the HP Auto-recovery effect of 《The Distorted Crown》.

He confirmed the equipment's efficiency in an unexpected place.

「Is this alright?」

With even her face turning green, Green girl checked Diablo's registration form.

「.....Y, yes. There's no problem with it.....probably.....Uh, uhm, now then, since there seems to only be Magicians, we'll do the aptitude test and level judgement over here.」

Diablo and the others were guided to stand in front of a mirror that was beside the counter.

It was a full-length mirror.

Was there something like a mirror in this place in the game?

He could no longer remember.

At the very least, there shouldn't have been this kind of event.

It was a mirror that looked like jewelry bordered in gold.

However, maybe because the surface wasn't polished or something, it was cloudy and faces and appearances weren't reflected for the most part.

Shera blinked her eyes with surprise.

「What, is this?」

「.....It's a mirror that measures the strength of magical power. It is used like this.」

Rem stood in front and extended her hand to the mirror. She touched it with her fingertips.

Bou. The surface shined.

The cloudiness of the mirror surface cleared away, and Rem's appearance was reflected. It was only the upper half of her body, but it was vivid.

「.....By strongly pouring magic power without any hesitation like this, the cloudy glass changes into a mirror.」

Pachi pachi, Green girl clapped her hands.

「As expected of you, Rem-san. There's no mistake that you are higher than level 40! Your magic power has become stronger than before, hasn't it!」

「.....Thank you.」

When Rem parted her hand from the mirror, its former cloudiness returned.

Shera raised both of her hands.

「I got it! Alright, I'm going to do my best!」

She pressed her hands against the mirror.

Just like that, she started to growl with a difficult face.

After a short time——

The cloudy mirror clearly reflected Shera's face.

The receptionist was surprised.

「Wah, that's amazing! Being this clear.....U, umm, 『Reflecting clearly enough to count the eyelashes』 is, since it went 『to the pit of the stomach』, your level is.....30!」

「30!? No way.....」

Shera let out a disappointed sounding voice.

Going by the information obtained up until now, level 30 is probably a fairly high evaluation.

——But, Shera's target was to be higher than Rem after all.

Rem puffed up her slim chest.

「.....It was foolish of you to think that you could surpass me.」

「But! Since I haven't gone on even one adventure yet, I'll instantly surpass you, Rem!」

「.....That's not possible.....You'll continue to look up at me for all your life.」

Quietly, Rem breathed a sigh of relief.

It didn't show on her face, but it seems that in her heart, she was worried that she might not be judged to be higher than Shera.

Part 7

It became Diablo's turn.

——Just what should I do to “put magic power into it”?

He was able to use magic.

However, he didn't know the sensation of putting magic power into things. Although he had already showed Rem and Shera his true ability, he still felt that he wanted to exceed them in level at least.

——What do I do if I'm told that I'm level 1? It's because I haven't been assessed at the Association before.....Is that what I should say?

Though he pretended to be calm, he extended his hand to the mirror while his heart was pounding.

He touched, the hard glass.

The cloudy mirror, went *dorori*, and changed into pitch black glass.

It was totally dark as if it were a hole that connected to hell and nothing was reflected.

Moreover, a black aura rose up from the mirror. It spread its territory into the air.

——Nn? This, looks kind of different, doesn't it?

Rem made an astonished voice.

「.....What is this!?!」

「What, what, what is this!? It's kind of scary!」

Even Shera let out a shivering voice.

Not just the Green girl, the neighboring Yellow girl that was organizing documents, and even the Red girl had let out screams.

——It looks like this is kind of bad.

Diablo promptly parted his hand from the mirror. The moment he did, the black aura vanished and the mirror returned to how it was before.

He asked the green girl.

「What kind of judgement would this be?」

「.....Eh, umm, umm.....This was the first time, something like this happened so.....Uuu~?」

Not seeming to have the knowledge, she was completely flustered.

「What was that surge just now!?!」

Pushing open a door that was in the inner area of the counter, a single girl rushed out.

It was a Grasswalker that grew rabbit-like ears and tail. She could only be seen as a child, but no matter how old their race got, their outward appearance wouldn't change.

She had an appearance that didn't have much profuse clothing.

With only a cloth wrapping around her chest, her shoulders and navel were exposed.

With a light cloth that couldn't even be called a skirt hanging around her waist, a majority of her fleshy, thin legs was out in the open.

Her hair was short, and red.

Her helpless, large eyes caught sight of Diablo.

The green girl flusteredly explained.

「Gui, Guildmaster! Umm, wh, when we tried to judge this person's level, the mirror.....」

Guildmaster——The person called Guildmaster is the most important person in the Adventurers Association.

The little girl looked back and forth at the mirror and Diablo.

Then a smile was expressed.

「Hello. The thing from earlier, was that you?」

「It seems that I was.」

「I'd like to have a small talk with you inside but, is that okay?」

When in front of the smiling face of a child, one would unconsciously let their guard down but.....

The other person was a Grasswalker as well as this Frontier Town Faltra's Adventurers Association Chairman. He needed to brace himself.

Diablo nodded.

「Very well.」

「.....I am going too.」

Rem stood to the right of him.

Shera also panicked and stood to his left.

「I, I'm also going! If you're going to have a talk with Diablo, I can't have you overlooking me!」

「Un, then, I ask the same of you two as well. Could you please come this way?」

The Guildmaster turned around on her heel.

Green girl quickly bowed her head.

「Uh, umm, well then, please come inside.....Ah, please come in through here.....!!」

Lifting up a part of the counter, it came undone.

It wasn't that surprising of a mechanism, but once again witnessing an element that wasn't recited in the game, Diablo noticed that he was enjoying the situation in his heart.

Diablo went into the inner part of the counter.

——Since there wasn't a scenario where you go into the Guildmaster's room in the game, I'm kind of looking forward to this.

Walking through the gap of the desk that had stacks of documents, they headed to the inner area.

Part 8

The Adventurers Association Chairman's room was a space that was about 6 tatami mats.

Not differing from the other places, all of the upholstery was made of wood. Maybe because she gets visitors, it was beautifully tidied up.

There was a low table meant for reception use and Diablo sat down in the wooden chair near it.

Rem and Shera were at both of his sides.

The Guildmaster sat at a solid wooden work desk and it was a somewhat separated from the place that Diablo's group sat at.

With the chair seeming to be a bit high for her, she jumped onto it.

「Thank you very much for going through the trouble of coming here. I am the one acting as the Faltra Town Adventurers Association Chairman, Sylvie. And you are, Rem-san the Summoner and.....?」

Shera bent forward.

「I am, Shera! And, this is my Summoned Beast, Diablo!」

Rem's tail hit Shera's bottom.

It made a *Pos* sound.

「.....We said that Diablo isn't a Summoned Beast, didn't we.....Besides, it's not like you summoned him. You really are a stupid Elf that doesn't listen to what people say.」

「And I've said this over and over again! Diablo was summoned by the genius me, and is an amazing Summoned Beast!」

「Fu.....Level 30 is a genius.....」

Rem hid her mouth with one hand.

Shera's face became red.

「That mirror just didn't acknowledge the value of my talent!!」

「.....Only that self-confidence is worthy of respect.」

「Yay! I was respected!」

Sylvie the Guildmaster was calm.

「It looks like there are some complicated circumstances, aren't there?」

「You do not have to be bothered too much about these two. More importantly, you have something to talk about with me, right?」

Diablo prompted her to get to the main question.

Rem and Shera closed their mouths and looked in Sylvie's direction.

「Getting straight to the point, I don't think we can handle you.」

She was in a somewhat cheerful state.

Diablo tilted his head.

「I can at least ask the reason, can't I?」

「I don't know if you'll assent to it though. It's not just limited to us but the Adventurers Association attaches levels to registered adventurers and then entrusts them with requests in accordance with that level but.....In your case, we don't know your level.」

「You don't know, you say?」

「It's because this was the first time the mirror became that way. I believe that there's no mistake that it's a high level but we don't know how high it is. We can't determine what kind of requests we should entrust to you.」



「If it's a quest open to the public, I think I'd be able to clear them all.」

「That's some amazing self-confidence. That's all the more reason why you're outside of our evaluation standards. As Guildmaster, this is difficult.」

「Outside of your evaluation standards, you say?」

For Diablo, who wanted to know his own level in this world, this was a disappointing talk.

However, thinking about it, it was natural.

The town of Faltra was the “end of the opening of the game” and after entering the Demonic Being's territory that spread out to the west of here was MMORPG Cross Reverie's main game.

To obstruct the Demon King's revival by gaining control of the Demonic Beings' bases with the spread out races' bases as a foothold.

For that reason, the necessary strength is to be greater than level 80 which is close to the races' limit.

Moreover, via the scenario of “exceeding the limits of the races”,

Adventurers reached the unprecedented level of 100.

——I'm not exactly sure, but it would be appropriate to think that it's because I exceed the level restrictions that they couldn't measure my level. However, it's great that his level was high but if he couldn't get work because of that, he would be troubled. There would be no means of earning money.

——Should I just make potions and sell them?

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, there was a thing called subclasses.

There were various types like baker and blacksmith and not even Diablo could remember all of the subclasses' detailed data. There were just that many. Information confirming them was put up on the walkthrough site, but it was also bulky with hidden factors.

Diablo had chosen a craft-type subclass called 《Compounder》. As long as he had the raw materials, he could make things like recovery-type potions. He chose it because he had no choice but to rely on recovery items due to the effect of 《The Demon King's Ring》.

The highest grade recovery items were things that players had no choice but to make. For that reason, trading and buying them was expensive, and it's not like it would always be on sale.

In this world, by making use of the techniques of a 《Compounder》, he might make business if he made potions. However.....

Last night, he had promised Rem that he would pulverise the soul of the Demon King Krebskrem.

At present, that was the established strongest enemy.
Potion craftsmen bear a lot of responsibility. The thing called battle intuition is something that withers if one doesn't fight.
Besides, there was also the fact that he had an emotional attachment to the occupation called Adventurer.

Diablo inquired.

「You.....Does that mean you don't intend on recognizing me as an Adventurer?」

Sylvie swung her head left and right.

「For Faltra's Adventurers Association, we'd be glad to have you, you know? I'm not talking about my side. I was thinking that you might have some dissatisfaction.」

「If there are quests and the rewards are paid, I have no complaints.」

「That so? I'm probably weaker than you. I wonder if you're able to order me and make me consent? Or maybe, were you thinking of wanting to replace me and become Guildmaster yourself?」

He had not thought of that.

In regards to the game, the Adventurers Association was 『a system that mediates quests to Adventurers』 .

While it may be true that the Guildmaster is weak, it was impossible to refuse the quests.

However, in regards to the actual Adventurers Association, it seems they seek for someone that is the strongest to be the Chairman.

——There are a lot of outlaw-type guys after all.

Diablo remembered the bar fight on the first floor. To gather up a bunch of people like that, strength was probably essential.

「I have no interest in something like an organization. You should just do such troublesome things.」

「Ahaha, you're an interesting guy. In that case, I only have one more thing. There aren't many missions that correspond to your true ability, you know?」

That couldn't be helped in Faltra.

It was a town where there was a countable amount of 《Advanced Quests》 , and a place where the final 《Elementary Quest》 was given. Once one entered Demonic Being territory, 《Elementary Quests》 would disappear, and 《Ultra Quests》 appeared in exchange.

And then, although 《Story Quests》 continued the tale, the monetary rewards generally didn't correspond with the hardships faced. Things like trying to go back to the previous area or the level restriction being out of place, he had things like that to look back on but.....

Diablo looked at Rem.

——I guess, even now, I'm undertaking something like a Story Quest.

「You don't have to mind the mission's level. To begin with, there probably isn't a quest that corresponds with me in this area anyway.」

「Really? Then.....Pleased to be working with you from here on out!」

Sylvie rushed over and held her right hand out.

He held that small hand.

「Umu」

While taking an arrogant attitude, Diablo was relieved in his mind.

——I was wondering what would happen when the mirror turned pitch black, but I'm glad that everything got settled.

With this, I'm an Adventurer!

Part 9

「Hey, let's go on a quest right now!」

Shera was getting worked up.

Diablo felt the same way.

——I wonder how strong the monsters around here are?

His interest was inexhaustible.

Diablo's group went back to the counter in order to accept a quest.

Suddenly, when he looked down at the first floor, he caught sight of someone he recognized.

——That's, the accessory?

It was the Magicians Society's Galak that he had quarrelled with last night.

While throwing eyes of scorn at the surrounding Adventurers, he left the Adventurers Association.

Since Galak wasn't an Adventurer, he probably wasn't accepting a quest.

So that would mean that he came to make a request.

The game's Magicians Society frequently dispatched quests to the Adventurers.

They were mainly for gathering materials. For example, 『Since it will be used in a magic experiment, hunt 《Demonic Ligers》, and gather three of their fangs, 《Dark Fangs》』. It was generally just like this.

——Well, I guess there's no need to bother with him.

Rem and Shera were talking with the Green girl receptionist.

「Right now, the Quests that are out are around here.」

「.....Since this is the first time you're taking a quest, an Elementary Quest would be fine, right.」

「That's fine but isn't this cheap!？」

The red clothed receptionist was discussing something with Sylvie. Maybe because their conversation had been settled, Sylvie called out to them.

「Hey there, Diablo-san. There's a quest that I want you to do immediately but is it alright?」

She presented a single sheet of paper on top of the counter.

He couldn't read it.

Diablo urged Rem to read it.

「.....This is a subjugation quest of the 《Man-Eating Forest》's monster, 《Spotted Snake》. Are there people that do these kinds of quests?」

Diablo tilted his head.

「Monster hunting is normal as a quest, isn't it?」

「.....The monsters around that area aren't opponents that Adventurers can go and defeat with several people. Normally, monsters around Fort Bridge Ulg or Starfall Tower would be hunted.」

「It's because things like that are done that your levels don't rise.」

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

Rem talked indifferently. Her feelings didn't show on the surface.

「.....That can't be helped. It's not like everyone is as strong as you after all. If they were to challenge a powerful monster and die, nothing would remain.」

「Fumu.」

「.....Normally, even if a quest like this came out, no one would take it.....Still, since the request was made, there would probably be a good reason for it.」

「Uuu.....The Man-Eating Forest is where amazingly strong Demonic Beasts come out, right?」

Shera's voice was trembling.

Sylvie talked.

「It would seem that the request's employer is the Magicians Society. It looks like they require the eyeballs of the Man-Eating Forest's 《Spotted Snake》 for the sake of an experiment. Since the settlement date is close and we don't have the time to gather strong people, how about it? I'm not going to force you but.....Diablo-san, want to give it a try?」

Diablo thought about it.

The suitable level for the Man-Eating Forest was around 60. Monsters of that degree should appear.

If he was level 150, there was enough of a margin that they couldn't even serve as a warm-up.

——The problem is MP.

Being effected somehow due to consecutive uses of magic was something

that needed to be avoided.

He also needed to be reasonable in testing it.

If it's against level 60 monsters, he should be able to deal with them bare handed.

And above all, refusing the quest here would be an obstacle for his Demon King role play. He was unwilling to be thought of as being scared.

「Very well. I shall proceed to do it.」

「Thank you! But be careful, okay? 'Cause, for some reason, this quest is kind of suspicious.」

「.....Suspicious?」

「This happens occasionally. Quests that try to put Adventurers into traps for some reason or another. Naturally, we try to not take in dubious requests, but since this time's client is the Magicians Society, I think we can trust them but.....It kind of bothers me.」

「Have no fear. No matter what the worm is planning, they couldn't possibly bestow pain upon me.」

「Ahaha.....How promising.」

The Demon King role play was good and all but——

It certainly was a strange request. There was a need to be cautious.

What crossed Diablo's mind from her words was Galak who had left the Association just a little while ago. He probably bore a grudge against Diablo, even if it was unjustified resentment through a misunderstanding.

——Well, since I made him go through all of that last night, he might not get involved with us anymore?

Rem slightly raise her hand.

「.....I will go as well. Since Diablo is still inexperienced with these lands, I'm sure he'll at least need a guid.」

Since that's the case, there's no way Shera will keep quiet.

「I'm going too! After all, I'm the Summon Master——」

Although it looked like it was going to be the usual pattern, Sylvie interrupted.

「I'll leave the party organization to Diablo-san! The amount of money is just as it's written, it's the same no matter how many people go. If you have achieved it, since the reward was prepaid and we are taking charge of it, you'll get paid immediately! Well then, have a safe trip on your first job!」
She is probably busy too.

「Leave it to us.」

Diablo waved his mantle and started walking.

Rem and Shera followed along with a trot.

——So it's my first quest!

In his mind, the exalted feeling of when he first started the MMORPG Cross Reverie was revived.

Part 10

They left the Adventurers Association's building and headed to the western gate of the town of Faltra.

As usual, Rem and Shera seemed to be bothered about their necks.

Even for Diablo, he felt that although he didn't get much of a tired feeling, walking again for who knows how many hours was a pain.

「It sure would be convenient if we used 《Transfer》 to get to the Man-Eating Forest.....Is there no portal in the vicinity of the forest?」

Rem and Shera were flabbergasted.

——Huh? Did I say something that I shouldn't have?

「.....Uh, um, what is this Transfer you are talking about?」

「Diablo, is that also some kind of magic?」

「What? Magic to return to the last town visited is one of the basics isn't it? Return items should have been easy to obtain even in the opening.」

It wasn't just the slightly slow minded Shera, even Rem who should have been wise made a wondering face.

Diablo arrived at a single thought.

「Could it be that this other world doesn't have Transfer? Oi, you two, the name might be different but do you know of any magic or items that allow you to instantly move to another location?」

「.....According to legend, it is said that the Divine Beings had moved from one location to another in an instant. Also, I have heard rumors that.....that kind of ritual magic has been handed down in the royal capital's Magicians Society.」

「That's just a rumor, right? If there was something that convenient, everyone would be using it! Even I would be at ease if I didn't have to feel scared and walk through the night forest!」

「.....I really do question how an Elf would be scared of the forest, you know?」

「The night forest is different!」

So this is another difference from the game.

If it's mentioned in legend and handed down in the royal capital's Magicians Society, there's a high possibility that it exists in this world but.....

It hasn't been spread out in general.

At the very least, it doesn't seem to be something that Adventurers use freely.

Thinking about it, if there was Transfer, the distribution of goods would probably have a completely different form. Armies and goods would be dispatched in an instant, and even the transmission of orders wouldn't be any inferior to telephones and internet in modern society and be even greater. Come to think of it, the Fort Bridge Ulg that took three minutes of walking to arrive at in the game took three hours in this world. There might be a big difference in relation to movement. —Should I test it out? His curiosity once again started to boil. However, he controlled himself. There was no need to meaninglessly do a dangerous experiment. Even attack-type magic required a large amount of concentration when he used it. It wasn't as lighthearted as just aimlessly clicking a mouse. What if Transfer magic was something that required strong mastery of it? It would be terrible if it failed and turned into something like 『being within a rock』 . —Well, I guess I'm not in that much of a hurry. This was another world and not a game that you frugally play in the spare time of things like school or work. If it was a place that took half a day to get to, they just needed to go and take that much time. Since he didn't feel particularly tired, there wasn't a problem. Diablo closed his speculations in regards to Transfer and headed to the western gate.

Part 11

Different from last time where he was looking around at one thing or another with curiosity, this time they passed through Fort Bridge Ulg in two and a half hours and arrived at the forest about five hours after leaving the town. It was also due to Shera being somewhat excited since this was her first quest. Though, in his heart, Diablo was also elated. According to the request, the location the 《Spotted Snake》 inhabits is a swamp environment at the entrance to the forest. They came to a swamp where the muddy water gave off a faint rotten smell. If this were in the game, a panoramic view of the forest would be projected and animations that could allow the player to predict their encounters with Demonic Beasts would be streaming.

The Man-Eating Forest——

The three of them stopped their feet and gazed at the forest.

The many trees obstructed their vision, and if they were to enter inside, they wouldn't be able to see past a few meters.

The dense and overgrown leaves concealed the sky and would steal away the sense of direction from Adventurers.

In this primeval forest that has not been touched by the hand of man, a countless number of wild animals inhabited within, and they would attack if given the chance.

This was the Man-Eating Forest. It was the forest that man would not return from once walked into it.

——Well, in the game, there was a map displayed in the upper-right corner, and since there was a path if you searched for a bit, I didn't have any trouble even though I was cutting through it.

Though, in terms of movement, the game seemed to be a considerably tepid product in user friendliness.

Shera got closer to the swamp. She poked at a clump of bushes with the tip of her foot.

「Hey~? Where are the 《Spotted Snakes》？」

「.....I'll say this now but 《Spotted Snakes》 don't slither about in bushes.」

「Ah, is that so?」

「.....There's no way that a twenty-something meter long snake would come out from the bushes, right? Its head is bigger than your shoulder width. Most likely, it's inside the swamp.」

「Hie!？」

Shera jumped back from the swamp.

Come to think of it, it was a snake that was about that gigantic——is what Diablo remembered.

He had forgotten about the small details about something like a level 70 monster.

With a nervous face, Rem surveyed the surroundings.

「.....I don't know about the finer details, but they live in the swamp and they should come out when prey comes near by.」

「Is, is that so?」

「.....If you don't want to get swallowed whole, you shouldn't get too close to the swamp. I'll examine their state with a Summoned Beast.」

That's right, Summoned Beasts could be used as a lure. Even if they get attacked, if their summoning gets cancelled, they'd returned to being crystals after all.

Shera tilted her head.

「Hey? We're the only ones doing this quest, right? 」

「.....Naturally.」

「Then, I wonder if the Man-Eating Forest is surprisingly a place that a lot of people come in and out of?」

「.....What in the world are you talking about? It's be biggest danger zone close to Faltra City. If it's someone that values their life, they wouldn't go out of their way to come here.」

「Really? But there are quests that are dispatched, right? Even if it's not a 《Spotted Snake》 extermination one.」

「.....Even if it were just gathering berries, entering the Man-Eating Forest is way too dangerous. There's no one that would dispatch a quest that no one would take up.....This time, it was only taken because it was Diablo taking it.」

「Is that so?」

「.....Just what is it that you've been wanting to say?」

「Nn? Well, I mean, there is a presence, right? It's like there are several people in the forest.」

「Eh!?!」

Rem looked at the forest.

Diablo similarly turned his eyes towards it.

The forest was quiet.

Since there wasn't much wind, the many trees didn't sway at all and it didn't move as if it were a picture.

——Is there something like a presence?

Rem squinted her eyes.

「.....Is that true?」

「There's about ten of them. They're on top of the branches. That's them preparing to ambush a monster, right?」

「.....I don't know if you're an idiot or a huge idiot.」

「Why do you say that!?!」

Shera said that sounding unhappy.

Diablo saw what she was talking about.

What those guys that were in the forest were preparing to ambush, wasn't a monster.

「It means that they're preparing to ambush us.」

「Eh, why!？」

Shera's eyes went round.

——Hard to believe she's like this even though her senses are sharp.

Rem inquired with a low voice.

「.....Diablo, what shall we do? I think it would be alright return just like this.....This is clearly a trap.」

It probably wouldn't be a mistake to return just like this and appeal that they "were ambushed".

However, if things aren't dealt with here, it's very probable that they would be aimed for hereafter.

It was a blessing that the ambush as sensed. He decided to deal with them.

「Shera, where are their locations?」

「Over there, and over there.....」

Memorizing the locations she had pointed to, he aimed to miss them just by a little.

If the opponents were of one of the races, he didn't want to do something like suddenly taking their lives.

It was important to talk with them.

Diablo hoisted his staff.

「《Burst Rain》!」

The ball of fire that appeared in the sky burst open together with a thunderous roar. It was a level 70 ranged attack. Clumps of flame that were about the size of fists rained incessantly on the spots he aimed at.

「Uwah!？」

「What the hell is this!？」

The screams of men were heard.

Several people jumped down from the many trees.

Clad in emerald green lightweight armor and carrying bows, they came down in succession.

「Ah, Elves!」

Shera raised her voice.

It seems that the ones that were preparing to ambush on top of the trees were all Elves.

——What's going on?

He couldn't come up with a reason why the Elves would set a trap for him.

Right now, the only people that seemed like they would possess a grudge against him would at most be Galak. Diablo didn't think that more than ten

Elves would lend a hand to Galak in order to help him clear away his unjustified resentment.

「Kuh, using such a suspicious technique!」

One of the Elves prepared his bow and pointed at Diablo.

It was a good-looking young man.

He was thin, his arms and legs were long and slender, and his height was tall. His hair was dazzlingly blonde and it extended down to this waist.

The lightweight armor he was clad in was only a breastplate, and on top of that, he wore an emerald green poncho. With his trousers also being emerald green, it became equipment meant to blend in with the forest.

He was the owner of a beautiful face that could be mistaken for that of a woman's at a glance. The small bulge from his Adam's apple indicated that he was a male.

——That's an opponent that I don't recognize, isn't it?

Shera shouted.

「Selsio!? Why are you in a place like this!?!」

「Shera-sama, hearing that you were caught by a slave trader, we hastened to join together in order to rescue you!」

The other Elves also nocked their bows in succession.

——I see, so they were acquaintances of Shera's.

Diablo understood.

The opponents were about ten people. It was the number of people that Shera had diagnosed.

「Oi, Shera, who are those people?」

「That's, um.....」

It was hard for her to say.

The young man called Selsio shouted.

「So you're the slave trader! I'll have you return Shera-sama!」

「.....Who told you that? I am not something like a slave trader.」

「Silence! In that case, what is that thing placed on Shera-sama's neck!? You tricked the pure hearted Shera-sama who knows nothing of society into becoming a slave, didn't you!?!」

「This conversation is going nowhere.」

「Shera-sama is not a lady that can have a slavery choker placed on her by the likes of you.....no, by anyone!」

Selsio drew the bowstring back to the limit.

It would seem that for him, Shera is a very important personage. After all, he uses "Shera-sama".

If a person as important as that were to have a slavery choker placed on her, it's reasonable that he'd lose his ability to make a composed judgment. Diablo had already come to a prediction, but just to make sure, he decided to confirm it.

「Just who is Shera?」

「You insolent fellow!! Shera L. Greenwood-sama is the noble princess of the Greenwood Kingdom, which is also the suzerain state of the Elven race!」

Part 12

The Greenwood Kingdom——

According to the game's settings, it was a country deep in the forest that the Elven tribe governed by itself. Among the many Elven countries, it seems that it is the oldest, most distinguished, and largest one.

On top of that setting, it had a feeling of having a national isolation.

In actuality, there were scenarios where one would go into that country in the forest, but the Elven NPCs' attitudes were often very cold.

Because it was made that Elves were the closest race to that of the Divine Beings, that pride created their exclusive ambiance.

Among the story quests, there were also requests from the Greenwood Royal Family.

A model of one would be a 『Rescue the Elven Princess!』 kind of quest. Though, the setting on that was that they were kidnapped by a Demonic Being and not a slave trader.....

——I see, so that means that these Elves are in the middle of a quest to rescue the princess from me, right?

He was thoroughly in the villain's part.

Diablo smiled.

Because he had consigned many Adventurers to oblivion doing his Demon King role play, he was fired up to play the villain's part.

Besides, he also needed to get some information out from them.

The quest this time was a request from the Magician's Guild.

Did Selsio's group agitate the Guild's reputation to get them to put out this quest? Would they do something so roundabout? They looked like people that would try to get her back right then and there if they had discovered Diablo's group in town. They would have challenged him just like Emil did

in the Adventurer's Guild.

Instead, they went through the trouble of convening at the Man-Eating Forest which was a long way off from town and did an ambush.

Also, the quest's requestor knew that the high difficulty quest would circulate to Diablo.

When he compared the information, there was only one conclusion that could be seen.

——So someone had drafted the ambush strategy, commissioned the quest, Selsio's group only went along with it.

And then, that someone is.....

——Somehow, I think I already know.

Selsio raised his voice.

「You had better removed Shera-sama's choker, slave trader!」

Diablo understood the other party's situation. Frankly, they were foolish, but if this was an action from being anxious over Shera's well-being, killing them would be too rash.

It would be best if they could peacefully solve this with a discussion but.....

Even though he thought that, he often provoked people due to his Demon King role play.

However, people learn.

This time for sure, he would say a single phrase that would peacefully solve this!

But before Diablo could say anything, Shera stepped forward.

「For me, I don't care about something like the Royal Family!」

Selsio made a troubled face.

「Princess.....Everyone in the Royal Family is worried about you. Please, come back to the country at least once.」

「What Nii-san and the others are worried about isn't me, but an heir, right!? They just want me to give birth to a child!」

「That is an important duty.」

「Not being able to do what I want and marrying someone I don't want to get married to, I don't want any of that! I absolutely won't go back to our country! It's because I want to live with my own strength!」

「But, aren't you a slave right now!?」

「You're wrong! This is a choker meant for Summoned Beasts! It was only placed on me due to an accident! I'm not anyone's slave! I'm not Diablo's

slave, nor am I the Greenwood Royal Family's slave! I am me!」

「Accident? It would seem that there are various circumstances in this situation.However, if they were to look at your current appearance, the members of the Royal Family probably wouldn't understand.」

「It doesn't matter who won't understand, my feelings won't change!」

「For you to live on by yourself, you are much too powerless. Even if it's by force, we will bring you back with us.」

「N, no way.....」

Shera became frightened and stepped back.

The Pantherian young lady stood beside her.

「.....That was well said.....Considering it's you, that was a very good job.」

「Ah, Rem.」

「.....The determination to cast aside your country and live by yourself. I don't hate that sort of thing.」

She held a Summoned Beast's crystal.

——Shera did say that the reason why she tried to call forth a Demon King of another world was because she wanted power.

The power to live by oneself.

She probably sought power that wasn't bound by ties of obligation.

Diablo had a thought——

What are the Elves' levels?

Since they were surprised just by 《Burst Rain》, they don't have knowledge for magic.

However, a bow-user that could rapidly fire high-powered attacks from a long distance was a Magician's natural enemy.

It seems that Shera was evaluated to be level 40 as an Archer even when she was a child. So they are people strong enough to take someone like her away by force.

Are they really level 60 or higher?

In order to not be aimed at by the Elves from now on, it would probably be better to hand Shera over to them.

Rather, he might be able to get the Greenwood Royal Family to owe him.

Even if he were to demand a reward that would allow him to live without discomfort even in this other world, they would most likely pay it.

Diablo smiled.

——Well, that kind of solution would be too boring!

「You damned clowns.」

「Wh,what!? Were we just called clowns!? By a lowly slave trader!」

「You people have committed three mistakes. I shall correct them one-by-one. First, I am not a slave trader, I am a Magician.」

「Mu.....!? It couldn't be, that rain of fire just now was.....」

「Next, Shera is not powerless. Because, right now, I.....am lending her a hand.」

It wasn't only Shera, even Rem looked hard at Diablo.

「Diablo! You decided to become mine!?!」

「.....No way.」

「Do not misunderstand. This just means that right now, my interest is towards you——Didn't I say this before? That, depending on your objective, I would lend you a hand.」

「Yeah! You said that!」

「I shall show a bit of my true strength to this youngster that prattled that he would “take you back by force” in front of me.」

「Th, thank.....you.....!!」

Shera made a face that looked like she would cry at any moment.

She had firmly talked back to them, but in reality, she was probably insecure. Rem placed a hand on her shoulder.

「.....Everything is going to be alright.」

「Yeah.」

With a tearful voice, she nodded.

Diablo expressed an arrogant and cruel smile just like a Demon King would.

「Clowns, your third error is, that you made an enemy of me.....you had better learn of your own powerlessness and despair!」

If they were to know how big their level difference was, they probably wouldn't come back after recovering over and over again.

Though, frightening them enough without killing them would be pretty difficult.....

He faced Selsio's group and made a declaration.

「I will annihilate you!」

「If you are going to resist, then you will fall prey to our bows!」

All of the Elves nocked their bows.

「Fire all at once!」

They were considerably proficient.

Together with Selsio's command, ten arrows had truly drawn near Diablo simultaneously.

Since Shera and Rem were at his back, there was no way he could avoid them.

——Well, I won't be avoiding them though.

Right before the arrows hit him, they radically lost speed.

This was due to the defensive barrier caused by magic and the half physical damage effect of his equipped 《Hollow of Jet Black》.

For the most part, the attacks didn't reach him.

Selsio's group was shocked.

「What in the world!?!」

「Hmph.....And here I thought you'd do a bit better than that.」

It would seem that in this world, even the “strongest” and the “elite” were around level 50.

Selsio raised a confused voice.

「Impossible.....having received our arrows, is he really unharmed!?!」

——Was this not just because of the level difference?

It seemed like the quality of their equipment was also low.

If it were the game, bow-users would carry bows strengthened with magic.

If it were a magically enhanced bow, even with the physical damage was halved, it probably would have reached Diablo.

He looked at the arrows that had fallen to the ground.

In regards to Cross Reverie, arrows were items that would be consumed. In exchange for being able to fire powerful attacks from long distance, there was a chance that Archers would run out of ammo. It was required that they either buy more from a store or manufacture some with a Subclass skill.

And then, while this is natural, depending on the arrow's quality, the offensive ability would drastically change.

The arrowhead was a triangle, and it was made of wood with length of about one meter. The tail end had flight feathers.

——This is the graphic of store bought good.

In order to reign as a Demon King, he needed to be able to differentiate the effects of the arrows that his opponent used just by looking at the graphics.

To put it plainly, this was a normal arrow.

「You fools, just what are you always fighting against? With these arrows, just what can you defeat?」

「Kuh.....Are you mocking us.....!?!」

「I asked you a question. Do you only hunt beasts of the forest with these? Is that why you don't fight against the Demonic Beings or the Demonic Beasts?」

「Th, that's.....Isn't that natural.....」

Selsio and the others felt ashamed.
Diablo nodded his head with an “I see”.

——So that’s why the people of this world have such low levels.

He remembered the words that Rem said before.
“If they were to challenge a powerful monster and die, nothing would remain.”

It was just as she said.

In this world, if one died, that’s the end.

Just receiving a level down penalty and getting to retry from the last town you visited just like in the game——there was no such rescue measure.

For example, if the MMORPG Cross Reverie were a death game where 『if you die, the player also dies』, who in the world would challenge the Man-Eating Forest?

If it took half a day to make a one way trip to a moderate hunting ground, who would go to practice there everyday?

Moreover, the return would also be on foot. There was no return spell.

There were no hints thanks to the mutterings of the administrators, and there was no information exchange from a walkthrough site.

If it was just to live, all one had to do was avoid the powerful monsters and hunt the beasts of the forest.

One could live with a normal bow and arrow.

It was the same in regards to magic.

Rather than chemical element magic which, while powerful, could kill you if a single mistake was made, a Summoned Beast that you could make into a shield was safer.

If the life that they only had one of was on the line, people would do the safe and relieving easygoing choice.

It was something that was natural.

Selsio carefully nocked a single arrow.

「Kuh.....You damned monster.....If an evergreen oak arrow won’t work on you!」

It was an arrow that was green in its entirety.

A characteristic of it was that the arrowhead portion was cone-shaped like a drill. Because a green air current sprang forth from the arrowhead portion, Selsio’s hair fluttered.

Diablo raised a voice of admiration.

「Hou, so it's a 《Squall Arrow》 .」

「Why do you know about it!?!」

It was because it was often used against him when he was a Demon King in the game.

It was able to invalidate the Physical Damage Reduction effect. It was often carried by challengers as a countermeasure for 《The Hollow of Jet Black》 . Since it was also effective against monsters that could only be damaged by magic, it was a standard among standards for bow-users around level 50.

「That isn't bad. If it's with a 《Squall Arrow》 , you'll probably be able to bestow damage upon me.」

「Of course it will! This arrow is a treasure that I was granted by His Majesty! It's a supreme arrow that pierces through everything! I don't know what kind of magic you are able to use, but it will pierce through even that wicked nature of yours!」

The bowstring was drawn to its limit.

——To be honest, I don't want receive it.

So Selsio was about level 50.

Since it took some time before he made the shot, he most likely added some power with the Martial Art 《Charge Shoot》 .

If it's a 《Squall Arrow》 , he would definitely receive damage.

It would probably hurt.

However, if it wasn't able to give a lot of damage even after doing all that, it would probably make them learn the difference in strength.

Diablo daringly smiled.

His innermost thoughts felt like he was waiting for an injection.

Selsio shouted.

「Pierce through!!」

While the 《Squall Arrow》 left behind a green track, it closed in several times faster than the arrows from before.

The other Elves placed their thoughts of "Go! Pierce through him!" into it.

Rem and Shera called out Diablo's name.

Diablo didn't evade it.

Invalidating 《The Hollow of Jet Black》 's Damage Reduction effect, the arrow's speed didn't fall even by a little.

——If I were to receive something like this with my own flesh and blood, it would probably go straight through to my back.

Pain ran through his abdomen.

It wasn't a stabbing pain like he had expected, it was a reverberating pain like being hit with a fist.

「Guh.....」

A dry sound was raised on the ground.

The green arrow didn't pierce through Diablo. It tumbled to the ground.

Voices that were similar to screams were raised by the Elves.

Rem and Shera looked like they were going to hug each other and were delighted.

「.....As expected of you.」

「Thank goodness~!!」

And then, Selsio opened his eyes wide and quivered.

「.....How could this be.....You're telling me, the arrow I was granted by His Highness, had no effect?」

「Hmph.....The arrow wasn't bad, but you were just unskilled.」

Selsio's face warped.

People really do laugh when they're driven into a corner, is what Diablo thought.

「Wh, what in the world, are you.....Are you really a Magician? Then that talk of you being a slave trader.....What was that about?」

「I don't know who inspired that idea, but I am no slave trader, and I'm not an ordinary Magician either.」

「.....As I thought.....Just what, are you?」

「You should engrave this in your heart together with fear. My name is Diablo. A Demon King of another world.」

At Selsio's group's back——towards the forest, he fired a 《Freezia》.

Thunderously, the wind rumbled.

The frost effect fluttered about and fell.

The Man-Eating Forest froze from the cold air of the magic.

A beautiful flower of ice opened up.

The nearby monsters ran away in confusion. There were also wild animals that jumped out from the forest.

What ran out from the swamp were the 《Spotted Snakes》. Though, since the quest was a trap, they were no longer needed.

Additionally, wild animals that were several meters large were running away while raising screams.

It seems that the wild animals were more well attuned in regards to danger

than the people of the races. There was nothing that went towards Diablo. Selsio's group sank down to the ground while gazing at that spectacle. Going by their appearance, Diablo confirmed that they had lost their fighting spirit.

Diablo lowered his 《Staff of Tenma》 .

Part 13

Something else other than the wild animals came out from the frozen forest as if it were tumbling out.

It was a robe wearing man.

That guy, whose limbs were slender like wires and had a high-strung look, was Galak.

He started to shout at Selsio, who had lost the will to fight.

「Oi! Weren't you guys the Elf tribe's elite force!? To not be able to hit him with even one arrow, what's the meaning of this!? This is why you can't trust Demi-humans!!」

——I knew it.

Ever since he saw Galak's figure at the Adventurer's Guild, it had bothered him.....

He completely could not understand what stirred Galak up to do such a thing.

At any rate, it seems that he did not receive enough “punishment”. Personal communication was a difficult thing.

Diablo produced a displeased tone of voice.

「Oi, accessory.....It would seem that you're the one that instigated these guys.」

Galak shrank away.

It seems that he knew the difference in ability.

「Uuugh.....No, um, I.....I only told them that the Elven Princess that they were looking for would come here.....」

「It seems that you made them think that I was a slave trader though?」

「Th, they went and misunderstood all on their own! Demi-humans are dumb after all!」

Everyone here other than Galak was a Demi-human though.

Did this guy lose the ability to think normally?

「Hmph.....Enough, accessory. Never involve yourself with me ever again.

Next time, if you oppose me, I will mercilessly erase you from existence!」

He strongly threatened him.

Galak started trembling.

It would be nice if he became docile with this.

「Ar, aren't you, the one in the wrong!？」

Surprisingly, Galak made an objection.

「Hou?」

「In, in the first place, even Rem-sama is in the wrong! Even though you're a special person, why are you with the likes of a Demon and an Elf!？」

Rem made a displeased look.

「.....I am also a Pantherian. I'm fed up with the Human's Demi-human discrimination.」

「No, you have been approved by Celes-sama! As it were, you're something like a Human!」

「.....That's a troublesome argument.....Even so, my associates have no reason to be criticized by the likes of you.」

「In regards to the Magician's Guild! No, in regards to the world, you are an important person, you know!? That's, such a! You should be carrying some self-awareness and self-control! You should associate yourself only with people with more reliable pedigrees and great prospects! People like me!」

「.....Putting it plainly, that's annoying and creepy.」

「Gaah!?」

Galak groaned.

Rem glared at him.

「.....As one would expect, your actions are intolerable.....since you've been using the Magician's Guild's name, I'm sure that Celes knows about this, right?」

「U, ughh.....You're wrong.....I'm.....I'm not mistaken!!」

Galak started to run.

If he were to go into the Man-Eating Forest like this, it would have become a bit of a problem, but since he steadily headed towards town, it was a good thing.

Rem apologized to Diablo and Shera.

「.....It would seem that you've been wrapped up in my circumstances. I am sorry.」

「Don't worry about it.」

I'm the one that made the resentment bigger, is what Diablo thought. He didn't think that Galak was that much of a troublesome person.

Thinking about the gains and losses, it was best not to get involved with him anymore, so naturally, thinking that he should do that, he did this and that.

——Personal communication really is difficult.

Shera stood in front of Selsio who had sunk down. It was a distance where he could reach her if he extended his hand, but it didn't look like he had the energy to "try and take her back by force" anymore.

「Are you alright? You're able to go back, right? Since it seems that this forest is a dangerous place, be careful.」

「Ah, uuh.....」

「Also, could you report this to Nii-san? That I absolutely won't be coming back. I'm not Nii-san's possession——Right now, I'm Diablo and Rem's companion!」

Without waiting for a reply, Shera turned around.

Blood had rushed to her cheeks.

And then, she said 「Let's go back! Let's go back! I'm hungry!」 and smiled.

Rem mixed in a sigh.

「.....Just when did we become companions?」

「Didn't you say that you liked me?」

「.....I did not say that. It only meant that I did not hate that determination of yours.」

「Huh, are you being shy? Aren't your cheeks a bit red?」

「Kuh.....You baka Shera!」

「What's with that all of a sudden!?」

——I'm, a companion?

Diablo froze up.

Part 14

They had returned to the inn.

When they reported to the Adventurer's Guild and had dinner, once everything was over, it was completely night.

Diablo sat in the room where only the light of the candles were swaying.

In truth, he was tired enough that he wanted to lie down on the bed but.....

Since there was only one bed, he sat on the floor.

The only other person in the room was Shera.

She had sat down on the bed, and sometimes, she would intermittently look his way.

——What the heck is this?

He couldn't handle being alone with a girl.

He was troubled.

Rem, who he could rely on at times like this, was called by a messenger from the Magician's Guild and had gone to where Celes is.

It was probably about the matter with Galak.

Diablo's group did not mention Galak's name in their report but.....To begin with, the receptionist knew that the one that commissioned the quest was Galak.

If the Magician's Guild's name was used without notifying the organization, it would naturally become a serious problem. There was probably an apology from Celes in regards to that.

How Rem would be the only one to go was a consideration from Diablo's side.

If Diablo were to go, it would only make the other party needlessly afraid.

How he had thrust away Warrior Emil and was judged to be outside of evaluation standards by the Adventurer's Guild's Guildmaster was already very well-known.

On top of that, there was his appearance and his speech and conduct.

Making an extremely apologetic face that looked like she were going to cry, Rem——

「Um.....Since it seems like Celes would deeply apologize more than she would need to if Diablo were to go.....I will go alone.」
went and said this to him.

——Well, since I'm poor with communication, that actually saves me.

However, Shera is acting weird. Please hurry up and come back, Rem.

Again, she looked at him.

Unable to endure it, Diablo raised his voice.

「Do you need something?」

「Hyah!? U, um.....The snake was huge, wasn't it!」

「Hn?」

Thinking for a bit, he realized.

「Ahh, the 《Spotted Snake》 .」

「If the quest wasn't a trap, we would have had to fight with that, right?」

「Luring it out with Rem's Summoned Beast and bringing it down with my

magic wasn't that bad of a plan. Well, there was also the option of just freezing that area.」

The game's Freezia wasn't given a range of effect as vast as that.

Maybe it was because when he used magic, he imagined it using scientific knowledge. Or maybe it was because the game presented it in a moderated way.

By the time he noticed, Shera had come down from the bed and gotten closer.

「Yeah, yeah, Diablo, your magic sure was amazing!」

「Well, of course it was.....There is something I learned a bit regarding levels. The people of this world live so that they won't die. Without any pointless troubles, and as safe as possible.」

「Isn't that how it normally is?」

「I made efficiency the maximum priority in order to quickly level up even if I died. That was the kind of world I was in.」

「Is that about the other world that Diablo came from?」

「Umu. That's why a level difference has opened up. I still don't know if it's just the races that are weak, or if the monsters are also weak but.....from the impression of when I tried using Freezia.」

「Ah, that's the ice magic from earlier, right?」

「That's right. Judging from the reactions of the wild animals from that time, they looked weaker than the ones that I know of. They also probably held their lives as precious.」

Shera made a wondering face.

「Diablo, don't you value your life?」

「I do not intend to throw it away idly.」

「Hey, doesn't, your stomach hurt?」

「What? It's not like I ate something weird.....Ahh, could it be that you're worried about how I took that arrow earlier today?」

「I mean, Selsio's arrow was the Greenwood Royal Family's treasure. I heard that it was an amazing arrow and Diablo, you made a bit of a pained looking face, right?」

Everyone else was completely astonished by how the arrow didn't go through him.

It seems that she even worried about his expression.

「In my equipment, there is an effect that recovers HP.....Ah, no.....that heals wounds. There's no longer any problem.」

「Is that so!? That's amazing!」

Certainly, it was plenty strong. The insecurity that he felt when he was just summoned had been resolved for the most part.

「If it's just to live in this world, well, it's probably fine to just hunt wild animals or something. However, the Demon King Krebskrem can't be defeated like that.」

Shera gulped.

As I thought, I guess the Demon King's name is something dreadful for the inhabitants of this world——is what he thought but, it looked like it was a bit different.

Shera's expression sank.

「I knew it, Diablo.....are you going to going to choose Rem?」

「What do you mean by that?」

「I mean, ever since last night, Diablo, you've only been looking at Rem, right?」

「.....It wasn't my intention to do so.」

「Rem is really mixed up with Demon King Krebskrem, right? Even though there's absolutely no way of knowing when or where he'll show up.」

「Y, yeah.」

Certainly, from a normal person's view, having an attachment to the Demon King that hasn't even been revived yet, would probably give them a strange feeling.

Shera doesn't know that the Demon King's soul is inside Rem.

「Diablo, you're also thinking about defeating the Demon King! Are you really going to choose Rem!?!」

「O, oi!?!」

She had clung onto him.

It became a posture that looked like he was being pushed down.

Even if he tried to run, a wall was right behind him. And both the door and the window were distant.

Shera made a serious face.

「For me, I need you, Diablo!」

「U, umu.....」

「I've always kept quiet about this but.....I, I'm.....the Elf country's princess.」

——I know that! We just had a conversation about that this afternoon!

Could it be that you actually weren't listening to the conversation!?

She's such a slow girl that it was enough to make him worry about her future.

「Selsio did say that.」

「Ah, yeah.....Did he? Did he really? That's right! Well, I don't know if it's because of that, but even though I'm an Elf, my chest is.」

Looking embarrassed, Shera gathered the bulges of her chest with both hands.

The emphasized pair of spheres pushed up her clothes and, from the seams of the cloth, a soft looking valley could be seen.

「Uoh.....Is, is that, a characteristic of being royalty?」

「I wonder? Though, mother was different. They said it was rare.」

「I see.....That's amazing.」

Even he didn't really understand what he was saying.

「Even though I'm an Elf, because of these, I get seen with strange eyes.....Also, Nii-san was always going on about having children.....」

「Wait. Oi, that thing about an heir, is that something you were to make with your brother!?!」

「That's what I said. Royalty would get married to royalty, and leave an even stronger blood is what they said.」

「That thing about being close to Divine Beings?」

「Yup, though I don't really get it.....But, even so, Nii-san would always go on saying “Shera, you should just raise the children” or “I want three children”, you know!?!」

「With his actual little sister, huh.....」

——If this were modern Japan, it would be an outbreak of a court case.

「Isn't that terrible!?!」

「So did you leave the country because you didn't like that?」

「Only half the reason. The other half is because I wanted to know what I could do and how far I could go.」

「And you're still in the middle of that.」

Shera nodded.

「Yup, but.....If you weren't here, Diablo, I would've been brought back.」

By no means was Selsio's group weak.

If Shera were by herself, they probably would have easily caught her.

She was frightened.

「Thank you, for today.」

「Ah, yeah.....」

Her trembling was transmitted to him.

Like how a child would fawn on their parent, she clung onto him.

Still collapsed on the floor, Diablo felt her bulges pressed on his chest. It

was warm.

「But.....Diablo, if you were to choose Rem.....I.....」

「Weren't we companions? You said so yourself, didn't you?」

「I did but.....when I did.....」

「Nn?」

「Diablo, since you kept a scary face.....and didn't say anything.....Though, Rem did smile.....」

That was, since he had never been called a companion before, his thoughts had petrified!

——I was happy.

If he were to say that honestly, he wouldn't have such hardships with communicating.

It was embarrassing, and how would that look in a Demon King-like meaning? If he were to be delighted from being called a companion, would he be able to maintain his majesty?

However, it wasn't a good thing to leave Shera insecure like this.

He still didn't intend to choose Rem nor did he intend to separate from Shera. What did he need to do to convey that?

——For now, I guess it would be best to separate our bodies.

The whole time, Shera's soft bulges were pressing on him, and his nasal cavity was being tickled by the smell of a citrus-type of fruit.

Her soft hair gently brushed Diablo's hand.

——As if my thoughts could work properly in a situation like this!

When he tried to separate from her and get up from the floor, he tried to push her with his hand.

With bad timing, Shera was the one to raise her body.

「Ah, sorry, I was on you the whole——」

Munyon.

Diablo's hand pressed down on her pair of spheres.

You've got it wrong.

This was, when he tried to push Shera away.....no, he was pushing Shera but, her shoulder.....

That's right, he had tried to push her shoulder.

Shera's face went bright red.

「Ah.....uah.....!?」

「L, listen, you! Listen to me!」

「Yeah!？」

「I am a Demon King! Because of that, I don't have, anything like companions!」

It would have been best to remove his hand as he was talking but.....
The time from this morning was from above as she was lying down.
Nevertheless, even though it was earth-shattering, right now it was from below. By going against gravity and lifting the bulge, the power of the sensation increased by two or three times and boasted an overwhelming presence.

In other words, his fingers were buried in flesh!
Even if it was from above the clothes!

「Fuahn.」

Shera's nasal voice resounded in his brain.

——Ah, not good, not good! We were having a talk about companions!

「Are, are you listening? I have not chosen Rem!」

「Really!？」

「Of course it is! Don't think that a Demon King will come under your will so easily!」

While he was saying that, he played with the bulge that was in his hand.
When he moved his fingers, the sensation also changed.
And then, Shera reacted with a twitch.

She didn't get mad with a "You can't, you can't" like she did this morning.

「Ah.....Nn.....Yaa.....」

「Err.....Because I'm a Demon King.....」

「Nku, fuan, sto.....If, if you, touch there, I'll get a.....weird feeling.....even though you shouldn't do this.....」

「W, weird feeling, you say!？」

「Yup.....It kinda.....feels heartrending.」

There was a grinding stimulus on his abdomen.

When he unintentionally lowered his gaze from the bulge that he was grabbing hold of, Shera was shaking her waist.

She was grinding as if to rub up against Diablo.

「Uoh!？」

「Hyau.....If, if you do it that so strongly..... ヽNku.....Y, you can't.....」

「Sh, shoot! Did it hurt?」

He had intended to take out a considerable amount of strength but, his current self was level 150. He needed to pay scrupulous attention towards her sensitive parts.

——No, isn't this different? To begin with, isn't it bad of me to be stimulating her sensitive parts?

Shera wiped the tears that rose to the corner of her eye with her fingertip.

「U-un, it doesn't hurt.....It kind of, just made me feel a jolt.....H, hey, could it be, Diablo, do you also like boobs?」

「Ha!？」

「I mean, whenever you look at me, you're always looking at my boobs, right?」

「Ah, no.....It's because they stand out.....」

He was totally found out.

「At the beginning, it was a bit embarrassing, but.....If it's Diablo, then.....」

「Nwhat!？」

「If, if it won't hurt.....it's okay?」

「ッ!？」

His own throat dry, a sound passed through the air.

Shera gazed at him.

「Ehehe.....They're bigger than Rem's, right?」

「Well, yeah.....」

「When they're big, it make you want to touch them, right? If it's you, Diablo, you can touch them!」

「No.....That's.....」

「Ah, Nn.....」

——Isn't this pretty bad?

While he was thinking that, his reasoning was completely not working. He caressed, rubbed, and touched the bulge that was firm, thick, and heavy without abandon.

All while listening to Shera's fawning voice.

Eventually, in his hand, there was a stiff sensation.

「Th, this is.....?」

It was from on top of her clothes, but he gently pinched it.

Shera trembled along the muscles of her spine.

「Nhaaaaaaaaa——!」

With a jolt, she sprang up.

How her body temperature had risen up was transmitted to him near his waist.

Shera's eyes dimmed, and she looked at him.

「Hey.....Diablo.....」

「Wh, what?」

Suddenly, he felt a ice cold gaze.

It was a dreadful presence that he didn't even feel from the monsters of the Man-Eating Forest.

Slowly, Diablo moved his eyes.

At the edge of his field of vision, there was an opened door.

「Ah.....Uh.....」

The air was intimidating enough that it was impossible for him to do his Demon King role play.

Still with a blank and spaced out facial expression, Shera also turned her head.

「Ah, it's Rem~」

Near the single opened door, Rem, who for some reason had equipped hand covers furnished with claws on both hands, was standing there.

「.....After all.....I am.....small!」

So she heard starting from that conversation.

After this, both Diablo and Shera earnestly apologized to Rem.

Chapter 3: Trying to Save the World

Part 1

The next day——

Early in the morning, Diablo's group was called to go to the Adventurer's Guild.

They were in the Guildmaster's office which in the inner area of the counter. Diablo was sitting on a hemp sofa. Shera was sitting next to him and Rem was the only one standing.

The small Sylvie was at the large official duties desk.

「Sorry about continually doing this to you, but there's a commission designating you, Diablo-san.」

「Is it another trap?」

They should have received their first quest yesterday, but instead they received the Elves' ambush.

They were able to repel them because it was Diablo but if they were normal, Shera would have been snatched away and if it were handled poorly, they might have been killed.

Even this time, it wouldn't be guaranteed that things would end with them being uninjured.

Sylvie smiled.

「It's natural that you'd be cautious but this time it's alright. After all, the requestor is the Magician's Guild's chief. Since I received it from the person herself, it's certain.」

It would seem that the requestor was Celes.

Diablo turned his eyes towards Rem.

「What kind of talk did you have yesterday?」

It had bothered him but because of what happened last night, he didn't ask. Rem was as she normally was on the surface. Though it felt like her voice was a bit stiff.

「.....She apologized about yesterday's matter. She said that she wanted to give us a solatium, but I declined it.」

「Fumu, if that's the case, it's a commision in place of a solatium.」

Sylvie told them the outline of the commission. Certainly, it looked like the reward was high in proportion to the labor.

「.....Good grief, that Celes」

Rem breathed a sigh.

「There's no reason to flat out refuse it like that, right?」

Shera sprang her voice out.

「If it's a profitable quest, it's a warm welcome!」

However, Rem seemed to have a different thought.

「.....I, don't want to create a debt with Celes. I'd accept it if it were a normal commission, but a quest with a reward that is too high, I'll have to decline.」

「But you know, it's a commission that designated Diablo, right? In that case, wouldn't that make it so that a debt isn't created even if you help out, Rem?」

「.....Considering it's you, you talked after thinking about it, didn't you.」

「Amazing, isn't it!」

「.....Preparing it to even include that kind of excuse, that's very much like Celes.....I won't be going. Seeing as how you two are on such good terms, it's fine if the two of you go, isn't it?」

——On good terms?

Shera's face went red.

Rem pouted.

「Rather than flat-chested me, Shera who has pointless meat in her chest is much better, right?」

——Ahh, I knew it, so she's still mad.

It seems that Rem is the type to get mad quietly, deeply, and for a long time. It looked like it would still take time until it would subside.

Maybe also for that reason, Shera looked like she wanted to go together.

「If, if you're going to say that, only Diablo and I will go, you know!? We're really going to go, got it!?」

——Well, I guess it's fine if I just pay the money earned by this commission to Rem for the inn fees.

「Hmph.....If you don't want to go, then just stay in town.」

「.....That I will.」

Rem muttered sounding like she was sulking.

Sylvie clapped her hands.

「Yosh! So Shera-chan and Diablo-san are going, right? Then, that's that! Please take care of it!」

With a “Here”, she handed over the written request.

He couldn't read the letters.

Diablo handed it over to Rem, who held it out to Shera.

She delightfully read the quest contents out loud.

「Let's see, let's see.....A delivery of refreshments.....To Fort Bridge Ulg, is what it says.」

「I can't imagine that this is a quest with any meaning to it.」

Sylvie bitterly smiled.

「You can see the gap in Celes-san's trouble of wanting to give you guys a solatium by any means.」

Maybe she was worried about the hidden circumstance that Rem carried. Or maybe, this might be the embodiment of the feeling of "thinking of Rem as a little sister" that Celes mentioned before.

Though, rather than an Onee-san, it's more like an Obaa-chan wanting to give her some pocket money.

And then, a pubescent girl was being difficult.

Rem talked with a displeased sounding voice.

「.....Did she really believe that I would consent to such a quest that is blatantly way too easy and accept the reward? I've been seen as being cheap.」

Even for Diablo, he was a little reluctant.

「I can't imagine that there's any value in me going.」

Shera panicked.

「Eh~!? Let's go together! I don't want to be alone, you know!？」

「But I don't think there will be any dangerous monsters.」

「I don't want to be alone! Let's go~!! Le~t's~go~!!」

Is she a kid?

「You're really incorrigible.....Well, as long as I've accepted it, I guess I should go.」

「Yay! In that case, let's go right now! This is our first quest!」

「Then what was yesterday?」

「I mean, that was a trap! That isn't a quest! This is a redo!」

「Fumu, well, I suppose that's one way of thinking about it.」

「.....Celes is much too easy going.」

Rem breathed a sigh.

Sylvie gazed at the three of them, and cheerfully smiled.

Part 2

In the surroundings, grasslands as far as the eye could see had stretched out.

Diablo and Shera walked the dirt path of wheel track remains towards Fort Bridge Ulg.

In Shera's hand was the refreshment of Grape Wine.

As she talked about this and that, Diablo occasionally made agreeing responses.

The topic that tended to derail became to be about Rem.

「You know, Rem sure is amazing! Even though she's about the same age as me, she's properly being an adventurer by herself, she has a high level as a Summoner, and she has self-confidence!」

「If it's self-confidence, don't you have it as well?」

「It's because I'm a genius! But.....self-confidence, I don't really have that? Being a genius is just something that I was told that I was.....That's why, I don't have genuine self-confidence.」

「Fumu.」

「Diablo, help me out, okay? I'm going to get even bigger! If you sell favors to me now while you still can, it'll probably be a benefit for you!」

She puffed out her chest with pride.

So you're going to get even bigger than that——is what he thought, then drove that thought out from his head.

Feeling like he was going to remember last night's sensation, he tore his eyes away from Shera's chest.

「Then you better put in some great effort.」

When he said only that, Shera cheerfully nodded.

For her, she seemed to have talent. Since she did, she wanted to become an Adventurer, which had a spirit of self-reliance.

Being someone that kept close to advanced level people without working and taking the leftovers of the rewards was something that she did not desire. That sort of person was despised as “a Parasite Player” in the game. For Shera, she didn't want to be limited to only relying on Diablo and Rem, and was thinking that she wanted to become a full-fledged Adventurer that could think and act in her own special way.

Whether she knew of Diablo's wish or not, Shera was happy-go-lucky.

「The weather sure is nice~~, but, a simple delivery sure is boring.」

「Indeed.」

Like this, rather than a quest, it was just an errand.

It might be just right for a level 1 Adventurer, but Diablo was about level 150. Shera was a level 30 Magician. Though it looks like she hasn't memorized any magic yet.

It was boring in no small way.

——I wonder if an 《Intrusion》 ㊦ or something could happen?

An Intrusion is when a high level monster appears in a low level quest.

There were cases of scenarios like that, and there were also times where one would unluckily happen to pass by.

From the Player's perspective, it was an unwelcome accident.

「Ah! I see it!」

Shera pointed.

It was Fort Bridge Ulg.

On the day that he was summoned to this other world, he had the not very pleasant memory of being called to a halt by a guard.

Though, since he went through yesterday as well, it was probably alright now.

While lightly touching the horns on his head, he thought——looking at the state of society, it seems like there will be many times that these horns will be the cause of trouble.

However, saying “the horns are just for decoration” at this point and taking them off.....He lost the timing to do that.

As he chased after Shera who had gone into a jog, they finally arrived at Fort Bridge Ulg.

The ground changed from a dirt path of wheel track remains to maintained stone paving.

At Fort Bridge Ulg, there was a stone bridge that linked the East and West sides of the river.

And then, when facing away from the town, right before the bridge, there was the fortress that acted as the guards' station.

This meant that enemies coming from the West would attack on top of the bridge and travelers coming from the East would get checked before crossing the bridge.

That fortress had become noisy for some reason.

The number of guards was clearly large.

「What's going on? Is it a festival?」

「It doesn't look like it.」

The state of the gathered guards wasn't calm.

Not only were they all carrying weapons, they even had armor equipped. One

could understand that pressure hung about in the air.

When Diablo and Shera approached them, the frenzied guards prepared their weapons.

「It, it's a Demonic Being!」

「Why did it come from the direction of the town!?!」

「D, damn you! I'll do it! I'm going to do it! Uooohhh——!!」

It looked like they would slash at them with their swords at any moment.

「Wh, what.....?」

Shera became stiff with fear.

Diablo projected out 《the Staff of Tenma》 .

「What is wrong with you people? I am not a Demonic Bei——」

「Pre, prepare yourself!」

One of the guards prepared his halberd. It looked like he was going to use an assault-type 《Martial Art》 .

Yesterday, he wasn't suspected of being a Demonic Being. Now, they had enough energy to one-sidedly decide that he was a Demonic Being and looked ready to even attack him.

Stuck with not having a satisfying explanation of the mysteriousness of the situation, Diablo was about to use an interception magic.

At that time, one of the guards ran in.

「Wait, wait! You've got it wrong! This person is a Demon! He's one of Rem-san's companions!」

He recognized the short, curled up brown hair and the childish looks.

「You, are you the one that called me to a halt the day before yesterday?」

He nodded with a nervous look on his face.

「Y, yes. I am called Boris. I am sorry about that occasion.」

「To mistake me for the likes of those Demonic Beings.....it would seem that everyone is considerably worked up. Did something happen?」

「To tell you the truth, having heard a report from a patrol, everyone's on edge.」

「A report you say?」

「Y, yes, um.....How should I say this.....I don't think you'll believe me even if I say something like this but.....」

Although it was coming out from his mouth, it somehow seemed like Boris himself had doubts about his own words.

He pointed to the West.

「It would seem that a large army of Demonic Beings surpassing a hundred-something is headed towards this Fort Bridge.」

Even for Diablo, this was a report that was hard to believe so suddenly.
——Demonic Beings numbering over a hundred-something? Attacking in a large army?

He had never heard of such an event.

Demonic Beings were configured so that each one of them would be several times stronger than Adventurers of the races. In cases where they took the stage, in whatever scenario it was, they were treated as mid-bosses or big-bosses.

At the very least, it wasn't an opponent that one would unexpectedly encounter in the middle of exploring a dungeon.

Challenging a single Demonic Being with a party of six or with the combined efforts of several parties cooperating was normal in the game.

If it's the Demonic Beings of this area, would they be around level 90?

So he's saying that enemies as strong as that are coming here in an army that surpasses a hundred-something.

It seemed that a large-scale 《Intrusion》 that was impossible in the game was trying to occur.

Part 3

The Fort Bridge Ulg had a visage of two box-shaped buildings linked together with stone arches. At a sudden look, it resembled a castle gate. Those box-shaped buildings were spacious, and many of the guards usually lived there.

However, right now, because they readied their equipment and came down to the first floor, it was cramped.

The soldiers thought of their hometowns, encouraged themselves, shed tears over their nearing deaths.....In front of the opponent they felt hopeless against, they showed the manifestation of various emotions. Since Shera had handed the Grape Wine over to Boris, the quest was already achieved.

It would be fine if they just went back to town but.....

——If I leave things as they are now, this place will probably be annihilated. And then, before long, the Demonic Beings will probably invade up until the town.

It was a strange story.

Faltra City had a barrier. Even if the Demonic Beings were to attack, if the gates are closed, they shouldn't be able to enter.

Would the Demonic Beings assemble more than a hundred-something beings for the sake of a meaningless expedition?

Next to him, Shera was trembling.

「Diablo, have you seen a Demonic Being before?」

「Naturally.」

「You are a Demon King after all!」

「Well, pretty much.....」

「Are they strong?」

「If it's one-to-one, it wouldn't be a problem but.....Just in case, there's something I want to confirm. ——In this world, existences that harm the races are called Monsters, right?」

「Yup. Like wild animals that attack people, and also Demonic Beings and Demonic Beasts.」

「Putting Demonic Beasts aside for now, the ones called Demonic Beings have appearances similar to the races but are completely different living things. Is that correct?」

For something like this, as expected of the royalty of the Elves, it seemed that Shera also knew about this very well.

「That's right, the Demonic Beings are the Demon King's kin. And then, the Races are the Divine Beings' descendants. That's why they say we're completely different living things. The current Demonic Beings seem to be moving around doing this and that in order to revive the Demon King.」

「Fumu.....」

So that much is the same as the game.

In that case, it's very likely that the Demonic Beings' aim is Rem.

Just where did the secret leak out from?

Or maybe, did they perceive the magical power?

Like sensing not specifically Rem herself, but the fact that the Demon King Krebskrem's soul was in Faltra City. It might be to that degree.

He needed to be careful so as not to carelessly reveal her information.

——Still, a hundred-something of them, huh. Even if I'm level 150, it'll be tough if I fight them squarely.

Should he just hurry up and return to town?

After all, the Demonic Beings can't enter the town.

Boris, who had left holding the Grape Wine that was a refreshment from the Magician's Guild, came back holding a letter for some reason.

「Um, here! It's a reply of gratitude. I believe it will be proof we received it.」

「Are you normal? Even though a hundred-something Demonic Beings are coming at any moment, you're giving thanks for the Grape Wine?」

「Haha.....You're right. You might say that I'm not feeling nervous but.....If today is going to be my last day, I believe that I want to live it properly.」

「Fumu.」

「Diablo-san, please have your group hurry and go back to town.」

「Are you people not going to withdraw? If you're in Faltra, since there's the barrier, wouldn't the Demonic Beings not be able to enter?」

「No, if we were to withdraw, the field workers outside of the town and the slow-footed travellers would probably be troubled.....Buying time so that everyone can escape into the town is our job.」

So those guards were preparing to fight with those feelings.

Shera was moved to tears.

「Diablo.....Can't you do something?」

——I guess I can't help it.

With 《The Staff of Tenma》, *Kashin!*, he struck the stone pavement.

「Youngster, it's unfortunate but your resolution will become useless. After all, today will not be your last!」

「Eh!? Wh, what are you.....Diablo-san?」

And then, Demonic Beings appeared.

The guards of Fort Bridge Ulg raised voices that resembled screams.

Diablo turned his eyes to the point across the stone bridge.

There was a black group.

They were calmly approaching.

That lot was a group that possessed features that were in some respects similar to beasts.

For example, some would have faces like that of an ox.

Some would have hooves in place of hands.

Some would be unbelievably huge.

Some would have a skin color that was dark blue.

That group, despite all of them having disconnected appearances, they shared the common point of having an atypical appearance.

Would the one at the lead be the commander?

It looked like a knight that had his whole body fortified with pitch black

armor. In its hand, it held a large, cone-shaped jousting lance.

It was riding alone on a Demonic Beast. It was a Demonic Beast that resembled a dragon whose size was about that of a horse.

——So it's a Dragon Knight.

In the game, there seemed to be unique tamable Demonic Beasts that even Players could ride.

Since Diablo didn't reach out to the Mount skill, he didn't have experience with it, but it was said that among the Players, there were some that rode Wyverns.

There wasn't a time where he didn't think that he wanted to try riding one at least once.

——For the time being, right now, I need to overcome this situation.

Since he unintentionally said something great, there's no way he could just escape now.

The Demonic Beings had drawn close enough that they were at a distance that bows and arrows could reach them.

The guards of Fort Bridge Ulg, ineptly fired arrows.

However, it looked like those arrows didn't give any damage to the Demonic Beings.

「Guooooohhhh!」

The Demonic Beings howled.

As a counterattack, they hurled fireballs.

An explosion occurred.

A portion of Fort Bridge Ulg collapsed from the enemy's attack.

The guards that nocked their bows and arrows tried to get out of the way before they would get caught up in it but.....

Diablo said this to Shera.

「You stay here. If you're nearby, it will be hard to use my magic.」

「G, got it! Um.....!」

「What is it?」

「Diablo, be careful out there.」

Something like being worried about by someone right before heading out to battle, this was a first for him.

Mysteriously enough, his chest became hot.

His face had become hot and he couldn't even reply to her.

He turned his back to her.

Right now, he felt like he wouldn't lose even to the Demon King.

Part 4

Diablo stood on top of the stone bridge.

Since he had come out from Fort Bridge Ulg all alone, it gathered the Demonic Beings' attention. Though, there were a lot of guys where it was hard to tell where they were looking.

From behind him, he could feel the eyes of the guards that were filled with both hope and unease completely on him.

If it were his original self, he would get nervous and wouldn't even be able to say a single word. It was that kind of situation.

It was at times like this that he would do the Demon King role play.

Boldly standing there, he expressed an arrogant smile.

「You lot! Whose permission did you obtain to advance your army? To not know that I am on this land, you should be ashamed for such ignorance!」

If someone of the Races were in front of a Demonic Being, they would either draw their sword, futilely beg for their lives, or run away.

This was probably the first time the Demonic Beings were given a sermon by someone one with a condescending attitude like this.

Diablo understood that the Demonic Beings were confused.

For Diablo, this was a first. Normal monsters would just silently start to attack, and even in special scenarios, the enemy would only one-sidedly declare their intent to kill him, and he wouldn't even listen to the vocal message on the Player side.

This was the first time he did his Demon King role play on a Demonic Being.

「Who, you?」

One of the Demonic Beings stepped forward.

It was a giant that probably had an overall height of five meters and looked like a mountain.

Its face was similar to that of a wild boar, its nose stuck out, and two upturned tusks were growing from the ends of its lower lip.

While the earth trembled with a “*Zushin*.....*Zushin*.....” at its every step, it went up in front of Diablo.

——He's huge!

It was big enough that unless Diablo tilted his head up, he wouldn't be able to see the opponent's face.

The gigantic Boar-faced Demonic Being raised an axe that corresponded to its physique overhead.

It struck it to the ground.

Together with a fierce sound, a fissure traveled to the stone bridge.

Screams from the guards of Fort Bridge Ulg were raised.

「Good grief.....So you do not know of me. In that case, you should engrave it into that body of yours.」

——Well, it should be natural that they wouldn't know of me.

Taking one step forward, Boar face once again raised its battleaxe overhead.

This time, it was a distance where it could hit.

「You, small. Look weak. Kill!」

There was no reason to take this attack.

Diablo pushed out his staff.

「《Flare Burst》!!」

It was a superior version of the 《Explosion》 that he always used. For a Magician that hasn't broken through the level limit, it was highest magic they could learn.

Boar face was blown away.

Diablo's field of vision was enveloped by a flash.

Since he fired attack magic at point-blank distance, he was also within the explosion's range.

However, due to the 《Demon King's Ring》, Diablo was able to reflect any and all magic. It's an item powerful enough to even reflect recovery-type magic.

There was no way the explosion would reach him.

The flash settled.

The gigantic Boar faced Demonic Being was blown away to a place that lined up with the Demonic Beings that were on the other side of the stone bridge.

It had limply collapsed.

In the game, defeated Demonic Beings and Demonic Beasts would turn into black particles and vanish.

The corpse wasn't left on the ground like that of an animal of the countryside.

——So it's not like I defeated it.

However, it wasn't getting up.

Come to think of it, when receiving an attack that causes huge damage more than half of one's maximum HP, there are times when one would swoon.

Since it did that, it meant that big guy would definitely be defeated with a second shot of 《Flare Burst》. Though, since there was the rare Critical Hit

and Fumble, he couldn't affirm it.....

The mass of Demonic Beings started to get noisy.

——It would be easier for me if they were to go back with this.

It looked like it wouldn't be like that.

Waking up after several seconds of swooning, the Boar faced Demonic Being slowly got up.

「Kill, kill.....Gu, fu.....Y, you, burn me. K, kill.....」

Its fighting spirit was full of vigor. As expected of a Demonic Being.

——Now then, I've gathered those guys' Hate all on me.

With this, they probably won't go and attack Fort Bridge Ulg.

He wasn't able to get them to withdraw, but it was easier to fight without any unnecessary worries.

Diablo hoisted 《The Staff of Tenma》.

「So you will not retreat! Very well! In that case——I will annihilate you all!」

Part 5

Town of Faltra——

Rem was in the dining hall of the inn.

It was the place where she, Diablo, and Shera had a meal that morning.

Right now, on the opposite side of Rem, sat one more female.

It was the Chief of the Magician's Guild, Celestine Bordorel.

She wore an embroidered mantle and a long robe that perfectly accentuated her body line.

She didn't really mind it but.....

For a Human, she was big.

At the very least, she was definitely bigger than Rem.

At her back, there were two escorts today as well. Naturally, they were people different from Galak.

Celes expressed a smile where one could feel her broad-mindedness.

「I beg your pardon for having you accompany me to continue last night's conversation.」

「.....There's no need for you to fuss over me like that. I don't want to become an enemy of the Magician's Guild after all.」

「For me, I wish to get along with you better, Rem-san.」

「.....I don't want to be captured by the Magician's Guild nor be given surveillance by it.」

「That wasn't my intention, you know?」

「.....It's nothing but a difference of words. Both being protected within the Magician's Guild and having guards attached to me.」

If Rem were to lose her life in the middle of an adventure, the Demon King Krebskrem's soul might be released.

There hasn't been a precedent, but as long as such a danger is present, for her, it was natural that she would want to lock Rem up in a safe place.

Rather, the moment the secret is made known, she was prepared to capture her.

Though, since Rem is a superior Adventurer, she didn't feel that Rem would be captured without any resistance.

Celes sighed from Rem's obstinate attitude.

「I'm sorry. Today, let's put an end to that conversation.」

「.....That we should.」

「Last night, after talking with you, Rem-san, I also heard the situation from Galak-san.」

「Were there any discrepancies?」

Since it was that man they were talking about, she thought that he would distort the truth and report it so that he wouldn't be in the wrong, but it seems that it wasn't like that.

「If it were to differ, would you recognize it?」

「.....Recognize it?」

「Galak-san thought that he was doing the correct thing. In order to persuade you, Rem-san, he tried all various means, but he couldn't get you to comply——is what he lamented.」

「.....I can't understand that.」

「That's what I thought.」

「.....To begin with, the idea of trying to injure Diablo and Shera even though he was persuading me, I don't believe that is a normal way of thinking.」

Celes nodded. As expected, even for her, it seems she couldn't understand that.

「Galak-san has been dismissed. Since it is a fact that he troubled the townspeople, and that he arbitrarily used the Guild's name.....He needs to take responsibility.」

「.....Considering it's you, you've taken a momentous decision.」

「Since he's been dismissed, by taking a good look at his own actions and correcting them, I'm sure that he'll be able to get back on his feet.」

「.....I wonder about that?」

Rem thought that it would have been better if Celes had made that decision faster.

Celes is way too kind.

Then again, it was due to her kind personality that Rem was able to freely do as she pleased.

「When we had that talk, there was something that I heard from Galak-san that bothered me.」

「What was it?」

「Um, it would seem that Diablo-san called himself a "Demon King", you know?」

I guess it was impossible to keep it a secret, is what Rem concluded.

It wasn't a good plan to make an enemy of Celes here.

「.....I won't deny it.....Diablo is a Demon King of another world. That day, at the moment the sun and the moon were simultaneously in the sky, at Starfall Tower.....As Shera said, I summoned him with that intention.」

Shera also did the ritual magic with the textbook in one hand, but Rem believed that she herself was the one that summoned Diablo.

Celes made a serious face and asked.

「Did he really come from another world?」

「.....What do you mean by that?」

「I understand that you're very capable as a Summoner, Rem-san, but I've never heard of there being a Demon King in another world, and I don't believe that anyone of the Races would be able to call upon one that rules another world. Perhaps, Diablo-san was attracted to the soul that you carry and appeared. Isn't there the possibility that he is a Demonic Being of this world?」

「.....There's no way, that could be.」

If it was about chances that Diablo could have used to kill her, there were plenty.

There's no way he could be a Demonic Being.

On the contrary, on that night, he made a promise.

Very well, I shall pulverize the likes of the Demon King Krebskrem's soul for you.

Rem thought that she would try to believe in him.

However, even if she were to tell Celes that, it probably wouldn't work as proof.

「I had someone that I could trust take a look at the remains of where he fought.」

「.....Do you mean the Man-Eating Forest.」

「Just looking at it from the report, it gave me shivers. To be able to go that far with Chemical Elemental Magic, I've never heard of it before.」

「.....That, had also surprised me. However, to one-sidedly call him a Demonic Being just because he's too strong, that isn't very much like you.」

「Rem-san, are you able to trust Diablo-san?」

「.....Of course.」

「To be honest, I'm a bit scared.」

「.....Celes, how do you want to treat Diablo?」

「I'm hesitant. I want to trust in him just like how I trust in you, Rem-san.....But, as Chief of the Magician's Guild, I can't ignore this.」

Rem wondered if she should tell her that she openly told her secret to him and that on top of that, that Diablo offered to cooperate.

Diablo's speech and conduct is full of haughtiness and danger.

However, Rem felt that he just might be a nice person.

What words should she say in order to get Celes to understand?

When she was unable to get a simple answer out——

「Ah, customer, right now, it's in the middle of being reserved ☆」

「A lowly Demi-human shouldn't touch me!」

「Ouch!?!」

For some reason, disputing voices could be heard. Making a loud sound, the doors of the dining hall opened.

Galak appeared.

Part 6

Galak, who had entered the dining hall, distorted and warped his neurotic looking face, and his eyes were bloodshot.

His breathing was also rough.

What he wore was still the Magician's Guild's robe but it was torn in several places and was tattered, and on his hands, blood was blotted.

He talked with a trembling voice.

「Ce, Celes-sama! Celes-sama.....A, about last night, could you give it a second thought!? Isn't that just strange!? Why do I, who did the right thing, have to leave the Magician's Guild!？」

The two escorts prepared their staves and came out in front.

Celes replied with a composed voice.

「Just as I've explained many time, you did something incorrect, understand?」

「That's strange! That's just strange, isn't it!? The capable me, fired!? That's some kind of mistake! S, since it's some kind of mistake.....I went and p, punished the people that tried to strip me of my robe and tried to tell them the truth.....But, they, they kept on going on about the lie that I was fired.....」

「Punished? Is everyone of the Magician's Guild alright?」

Celes frowned.

Rem thought that considering it was her, that was a stern facial expression.

Galak shouted.

「Please worry about me! R, rude things were done to me, twice, by th, that, insane Demon! Even though I only tried to offer to keep that inappropriate guy away from Rem-sama! Why is it that you don't worry about me and worry about those small fry that are of lower status than me!?」

His countenance changed in a hurry.

Even his eyes kept on swimming.

It was obvious that the balance of his mind was breaking.

Celes stood up.

「First of all, please calm down. Let's have a nice and calm talk, okay?」

「I am calm! The one that's strange is you, isn't it!?」

It was a remarkably loud voice.

Probably judging that they couldn't overlook this anymore, the two escorts closed the distance.

「Oi, Galak! Behave yourself!」

「We'll push you out to the state knights!」

Galak was at his wits' end.

「Strange.....It's strange! Everyone, they're all strange! Ahh, I knew that what that person said was right! Both my talent and my magnificence can't be understood by such petty beings!」

Galak pulled something out from around his waist.

Rem thought it was the crystal of a Summoned Beast.

She felt sorry thinking about the damages to the inn, but in order to return fire, Rem stretched her hand out to her own crystal.

However, what Galak had in his hand was a dagger.

It was an eerily black bladed dagger.

Rem felt the inside of her chest gradually getting hot. She felt a suspicious presence in the dagger Galak held.

——I don't know what it is but.....That's dangerous!

While being cautious, the two escorts approached Galak.

「You've got to stop!」

「Don't expose anymore disgraceful behaviour!」

Galak glared at his former colleagues.

「You're too bossy even though you're small fry! Don't come near me!」

He raised the dagger overhead.

Rem grabbed Celes with one hand and stopped her as she tried to step up to him.

「.....You shouldn't approach him.....He's already no longer sane.」

Galak shouted.

「No longer sane!? The one that's no longer sane isn't me, it's you! The ones that are strange are you people of the Magician's Guild, and this world, right!? Why is it that the correct, capable me doesn't get favorable treatment!? Why am I not highly valued!? It's strange! Strange! Strange! It's definitely, strange! That's why!!」

On the black blade of the dagger he held, there was an eyeball attached that looked like it were alive.

Unbelievably, that eyeball was moving about.

It looked this way.

A chill ran down through her spine.

Rem threw her crystal down to the ground.

「《Shadow Snake》! Stop Galak's movements!」

What rushed out was a long and narrow shadow.

A black serpent slithered across the floor.

With an overall length of about five meters, its special ability was

《Restrained》——if the opponent was a standard person of the Races, it was able to restrain their movements for about five seconds.

However, Galak's action was faster than the Summoned Beast could reach him.

「I absolutely need to be correct! This world, I'll!」

Galak violently thrust the dagger into his own chest.

——He committed suicide!?

Rem caught her breath.

Celes controlled her mouth, and the two escorts felt ashamed.

No, that's not it! Rem perceived a sign of expanding magical power, and shouted out a warning.

「Get away from him!」

Galak vomited a black colored liquid from his mouth.

Even from the wound on his chest, the slimy substance was gushing out.

His skin darkened and changed into something that had a luster like that of obsidian.

His arms and his torso irregularly thickened, and a thick tail grew out from around his waist.

The shape of his face also changed and became a head like that of a lizard.

In no time at all, Galak's figure was completely transfigured.

Rem pressed down on her chest.

She felt like the soul of the Demon King that was sealed within her was responding to that. Her heart was pounding.

Her voice trembled.

「.....Could it be.....A Demonic Being!？」

「ッ!？」

Celes let out a small scream, and the two escorts that were overcome with surprise became her shield.

The lizard head that was once Galak let out muddled voice.

「Ah~.....Ah~.....So it's finally Gregor-sama's turn. Seriously, don't just keep on blabberin' on, ya damned Human!」

Gregor lightly rotated his shoulders.

His hard skin made a scraping sound.

The Summoned Beast, 《Shadow Snake》, that Rem released coiled around the opponent's body.

It should have sealed his movements.

「Aah? What is this thing? Don't go gettin' in my way!」

Unbelievably, when he grabbed the Summoned Beast with his thick fingers, he casually tore it off as if it were paper or an obi made of a thin cloth.

——He did that to a level 20 Summoned Beast, with his bare hands!?

Rem understood the difference in their ability.
She was an Adventurer! She needed to protect Celes!
The two escorts prepared their staves.

「Leave this place!」

「Up to us!」

Rem grabbed Celes' hand, and ran towards the window.
Not being made of a high-class item like glass, the window was just a wooden board that was pushed up and supported by a pole.
Carrying the bewildered Celes onto her shoulder, she tossed her out.

「Wait.....Rem-sa.....Kyaa!？」

「Please endure it!」

Since it was the first floor, she probably wouldn't die.
Immediately, she followed after.

The opponent was a Demonic Being.

It tempted Galak and invaded the town with a method she never heard of that changed him into a Demonic Being.

Most likely, its objective was the destruction of the barrier. There was no mistake that it was aiming for the Chief of the Magician's Guild.

——I absolutely need to protect Celes!

In front of the inn, seeing Celes dropped to the ground, the people walking down the road made puzzled faces.

It was because that didn't look like a person of a social status that would escape through a window.

While helping her up, Rem shouted.

「Everyone, run away! It's a Demonic Being!」

Immediately following that——

The wall of the inn's dining hall was blown away.

The several people that approached out of curiosity were hit by the fragments of the wall that was scattered about, and it became a terrible sight.

From the partially destroyed inn, a lizard-headed giant came out. It was Gregor.

His fists were dripping wet with blood.

The voices of Celes' escorts couldn't be heard.

「Oii? I don't got any business with the shorty, so move it! I have some business with that woman! Yer Celestine Bordorel, ain't cha? The barrier is in the way so fer now, ya die!」

Gregor brandished his enormous fist.

Celes, who had no combat experience, was completely frightened. To begin with, since most of her magic power went to the barrier, she didn't have any fighting strength.

Rem threw a crystal.

——Right now, I need the strongest Summoned Beast I can use!!

「Come forth, 《Aslau》 !!」

It was a gigantic bull possessing three horns.

Its special ability was 《Assault》, and it had an offensive ability that rivaled that of the level 40 Warrior's 《Sword's Might》. Also, it was tenacious.

It should be able to buy some time.

Standing Celes up, she pushed her back.

「Run! To either the Adventurer's Guild or to the Magician's Guild! Even the army's garrison is fine!」

「I won't go unless I go together with you!」

「I get it!」

Rem needed to protect herself as much as she needed to protect Celes.

The Summoned Beast 《Aslau》 charged.

Gregor did a war cry, and pushed out his fist as if to meet the enemy.

「Doosei~, 《Aura Punch》 !!」

In one attack, the Summoned Beast 《Aslau》 was pulverized.

A crystal that faded to black rolled at his feet.

Rem was astonished.

「.....No way.」

A level 40 Summoned Beast couldn't even keep him busy.

She became frozen from fear.

Gregor got closer.

「Oi oi? I told ya ta get outta my way, ya know, Shorty? Do ya wanna die first?」

Part 7

The people of the town raised screams and were running away.

There were also guards that noticed the uproar and headed over, but the opponent was Gregor who was able to pulverize the tenacious Summoned

Beast with one attack. They just meaninglessly increased the number of victims.

The presence of people disappeared from the front of the inn.

There was only Celes who had frozen up making her unable to even run away and Rem who, although protected Celes at her back, had no way of opposing the enemy.

The giant that possessed hard scales on its lizard head——Gregor was getting closer.

Among all of the Warrior types, he was a 《Fistfighter》 type that did not use weapons and fought with his fists.

Those fists had pulverized even the strongest Summoned Beast that Rem could call upon with one attack.

——I can't win!!

There was a person that was running to the main street that was becoming devoid of the presence of people.

「Kuh.....I made it in time!」

She turned to look at the footsteps.

She saw golden armor. She recognized that appearance that was way too gaudy.

That person only had one tuft long bangs combed up.

「Are you alright, Rem-chan? Also, Celes-sama?」

「.....E, Emil!?」

The Adventurer Warrior Emil stood in front of Gregor in order to protect Rem and Celes.

「Good grief.....Just when I heard the uproar and came running to check it out.....I don't know how it got in, but to think that a Demonic Being would be rampaging within the town. And above all! To think it would be aiming for women, I can't forgive that!」

It was an unusually theatrical and pompous way of speaking.

At the back, shouts of joy were raised.

The ones that came running together with him were the other Adventurers.

Emil was the strongest Warrior in the Adventurer's Guild.

He was both popular and had popularity.

Gregor gripped his fist.

「Who the hell are ya!?」

Emil prepared his long sword in front of his body.

「My name is Emil Byushelbeljel! I am the Guild's number one 《Herculean Warrior》 and an ally of all women!」

「Ya sure are interestin', Human! Show that ya can make this Gregor-sama enjoy himself!」

「Though, for you, it probably won't be an enjoyable outcome!」

Emil swung his sword.

A phosphorescence of magic power surged from the blade.

He had received the assistance of magic power bestowal on his sword from this Adventurer comrades.

Furthermore, piling up Martial Arts, an intense attack had struck.

It hit the back of Gregor's neck.

A hard sound that one wouldn't think would come from a creature that was just killed had resounded. Emil wasn't able to break the obsidian-like scales. Even so, Gregor stepped back a couple of steps and fell to a knee.

「Oi oi oi oii? Despite bein' a Human, yer pretty strong, ain't cha!」

「There's still more to come! This isn't all that I've got!」

Emil attacked while pursuing him. He unleashed slashes that eyes couldn't keep up with continuously. Was that also one of the Martial Arts?

Gregor covered his head with both arms.

Every time the sword hit his arms, a high-pitched sound resounded, as if he were slashing at iron or rock.

And then, it was only a little bit but black fragments flew about.

「If it weren't enhanced with magic, although it is my sword, it might have broken! However, my sword right now, is invincible!!」

「Guh, kuh.....!?!」

It was hard to tell if it was effective or not but.....

Emil was pressuring him!

Gregor was on the defensive.

「Annoyin', annoyin', this is tha best!」

「HA! Do you like one-sidedly receiving attacks!? In that case, I'll let you eat even more slashes! Until all of those scales you're so proud of disappear!」

「Kukuku.....What I like.....is makin' Humans that are brimmin' with confidence like you fall into despair. That face at that moment, I just can't get enough of it!」

Gregor muttered something.

A radiance of magical power spread out.

Emil who was repeatedly attacking was blown away.

Tumbling on top of the stone paving, and caught by the Adventurers that were surrounding them, he finally stopped.

Gregor puffed out his chest looking self-important and stood up.

For Rem, all she knew was that he had used magic.
Moreover, it wasn't Summoning magic, but Chemical Elemental magic like Diablo used?

While being supported by those around him, Emil stood up.
His Magician comrades were chanting Healing magic. That kind of support was to somehow let him return to the fight.

「Kuh.....You, just now, what did you do!?!」

「It was magic, Human! Ya know, this Gregor-sama is the number one
《Magician》 in the Man-Eatin' Forest!」

「What was that!?!」

So his way of fighting like a Fistfighter was all a fake.

Gregor spread open his right hand.

In that hand, phosphorescence of magic power congregated.

「Is that alright? If yer not gonna come, you'll one-sidedly be my magic's prey!」

「Damn it! 《Sword Smite》 !!」

Spurring on his damaged body, Emil used a Martial Art.

Getting close in an instant, he unleashed a horizontal slash.

However, Gregor's left arm easily stopped the blow.

「Gufufu.....Even as a Fistfighter, I'm stronger than you Humans!」

「As if I'd lose!!」

Gregor's magic was completed faster than Emil's pursuit.

His magic was invoked simultaneously with his right fist's strike.

「Oraa! 《Dark Bullet》 !!」

Relentlessly, a black light bullet was shot at Emil who had barely stopped Gregor's fist with his sword.

Making a thick sound, a hole opened up on the left shoulder of Emil's armor.
Fresh blood fluttered about.

「Guhaah!?!」

「Oraa! Next is the right arm!!」

Simultaneous with a kick, magic was once again fired.

The armor was crushed, and from that gap, bright red blood spurt out.

The Adventurers in the surroundings that saw that raised screams.

It wasn't that they were being cruel. It's just that they had no way of attacking the enemy that not even Emil's attack could make a telling blow on.

At the most, they could do nothing but Healing magic and Support magic from a distance.

If they were to get closer, they would instead be getting in the way. Even if they were bravely volunteer themselves, Emil had a personality where he would defend against attacks that went towards his comrades.

Rem shouted.

「Emil, please run away! You're too poorly matched against him!」

However, he stood up even while his legs were shaking.

He expressed his usual pompous-like smile.

「Run away? This great me leaving behind a woman? Oi oi, please don't go saying such stupid things, Rem-chan.」

Emil combed up his only one tuft long bangs.

「Doing something like turning my back on an enemy in front of a woman is something I will never do! My name is Emil Byushelbeljel! Although I'm the Guild's number one 《Herculean Warrior》——I am the guardian of all women!」

Gregor narrowed his eyes.

「Now~ then, I guess it's about time I get serious! When it looks they're gonna lose, Humans will abandon their comrades and run away, right?」

His reptilian eyes turned towards Rem and Celes.

Right now, if they were to run——

Most likely, Gregor would ignore Emil and start shooting magic at them.

From the beginning, if the two of them looked like they were going to escape, he was able to fire powerful magic at them at any time.

——We were being played with!?

Emil shouted, raised his sword overhead with his bloodstained hands, and charged in.

With a Fistfighter-like stance, Gregor carried a light of magic power in those fists.

「It's about time, that ya die, Human! 《Dark Press》 !!」

The powerful magic crushed Emil's body.

But even so, he did not step back.

He absolutely did not step back.

Part 8

Fort Bridge Ulg——

It was on top of the large stone bridge that hung over the river that separated the Man-Eating Forest and the town of Faltra.

In front of Diablo, there were defeated Demonic Being tumbled about. Several of them had already turned into particles and disappeared. He had stopped counting the number of defeated enemies around the time it passed twenty-something.

Making the other Demonic Being step back, the commander-looking Dragon Knight came forward.

Its body was clad in a jet-black, full-body armor that even covered its face. Its body was short when compared to the Races but that wasn't enough to make Diablo become negligent and half-heartedly fight.

——Is it about time for the big boss to make their appearance?

The Dragon Knight came down from the riding dragon.

Still holding onto the jousting lance, it came until it was on top of the stone bridge with a slow manner of walking.

「Why did you get down from the Demonic Beast?」

「Because, won't move?」

It was the voice of woman.

It was a mature type of voice, but because of its timid sounding tone, it also sounded young.

The commander took off her helmet.

Her silver hair gently spread out. Its length going all the way to her waist, it was fairly long.

The exposed face was that of a brown-skinned beautiful girl. Because her eyes were big, even a childish ambiance was felt.

In those golden eyes of hers, there were vertically torn pupils like that of a reptile.

Her violet lips opened.

「Usually, good child that does as told.....But~, after look at you, won't move. Probably, your fault? That why, got down.」

「Hmph, doesn't the Demonic Beast understand better than you who nonchalantly approached? The fact that you can't win against me.」

「Won't know until try? Edelgart is~ strongest spear-user among Demonic Beings. Won't lose, to some Demon Magician.」

The commander——Edelgart prepared her jousting lance.

There was a distance of about eight meters and five centimeters from the enemy. It was already an interval that was way too close, but it was the result of making intelligence gathering through dialogue the priority.

——I had intended on holding back my MP consumption as much as possible, but there's already a strange sleepiness.

As if he had just stayed up all night, there was a moment where his concentration was broken.



Against this opponent, things would not likely become fatal.

However, there was a high possibility that the enemy army would withdraw if he defeated the commander. This was the turning point.

「Let us test you to see if you really aren't weak!」

「Fight? Not fight?.....Fight!」

She kept the jousting spear at the ready.

Then she charged with a speed that were as if she were riding the Demonic Beast she should have gotten down from. It was with a speed like that of a fired arrow.

——《Lance Charge》 huh.

It was a charging-type Martial Art similar to 《Sword Smite》 which used a sword. When using a spear, it was the number one often used standard technique.

After getting close, it would fire two thrusts. The need to cancel that was also the same.

Diablo dodged by moving to the side of the attack.

They were on top of the stone bridge, but there was enough space for him to do that.

Against any attack, first dodging it to the side was a basic of battle.

Seeing the attack being dodged ahead of time, Edelgart canceled the charge.

Almost simultaneously, she came with a side-sweeping blow.

——To use 《Swing Spike》 next, she's surprisingly devoted to the basics, isn't she?

Rotating the whole body, it was a technique that swung the spear. There was a gap before it would occur but once she started turning, it was possible to turn many times.

Since he knew the trajectory, dodging it wasn't difficult.

「Hmph.....Do you only possess Martial Arts of that level? For a Demonic Being that uses a weapon, you don't amount to much, do you?」

「Still more. Then, use it!」

Edelgart pointed her jousting spear to the sky and thrust it up.

A black mist rose up from the jousting lance. Before long, it was clad in a black aura that made it look like it became bigger.

——Hou! So she's going to use 《Sacrifice Charge》 !

Consuming the user's HP, it was a big technique that is unleashed.

It was learnable above level 80.

Not only did it have power that was in a different league, the aura that the weapon was clad in also determined the attack. Having an inconsistent

shape, evasion was difficult.

As for the technique's movements, she'd charge in with a thrust. Swing around with a side sweep. And then, she'd jump up and do a downward slash, but——he didn't know if she would use it just like that.

Running around and giving her a barrage of magic would bring him closer to victory. However, the opponent wouldn't lose their fighting spirit with that.

To go against the Demonic Beings that still had more than half of their original number, his MP wouldn't last.

——I need to endure this one!

Diablo stopped his feet, and spread out both arms.

「Interesting! That technique, I shall dare to take it! See if you can bestow damage upon me!」

「'Kay, go. 《Sacrifice——」

With the spear clad in the jet-black aura, Edelgart thrust forward.

「——Charge》 ツ!」

A massive pain ran through Diablo's abdomen.

He took the thrust.

Before he could put up his guard, the side sweeping blow struck the side of his head.

——It's fast!?

And then, Edelgart jumped up. She swung the spear that she greatly held aloft down with all her might.

It looked like he was going to step back from the incoming pain but——
Diablo stopped his step, and dared to take the technique on his collar.

Zun, his body became heavy.

It felt as if a lead weight or something was placed on his back.

On his abdomen, there was a dull pain. He couldn't tell from above his equipment but there might have been some hemorrhaging.

「So this is, damage.....!」

Having come to this other world, this was the first time he received damage that he couldn't ignore from another person.

It might be different from the cases of the normal striking and cutting, but from the damage due to the 《Martial Art》, the sensation that his physical strength was snatched away was stronger than the external wounds he received.

It's not like he became unable to move from the pain but there was a possibility that it gave him enough fatigue to make him not want to move.

Preserving until his HP was barely hanging on like in the game was dangerous. It would probably be better to move with more composure. Diablo was satisfied with the information he obtained, and even expressed a smile.

Edelgart was breathing roughly.

「.....It, unbelievable. Even though, hit straight on.....You, standing, incomprehensible.」

《Sacrifice Charge》 was a Martial Art that used 15% of one's HP to fire. In the game, it was merely 15%, but if one's physical strength were to be completely carried off in an instant, there might be that much of a tired feeling.

As for Diablo, he was in the mood of wanting her to accompany him in more experiments.

However——

「Diablo-sa~n!」

All of a sudden, there was someone running to him from Fort Bridge Ulg. No matter how much he had stopped the enemy's movements, they did something reckless.

It was Boris.

He was making a desperate expression.

Diablo shouted at him at a distance where his voice could be heard.

「Don't get any closer!」

Boris stopped his feet, and replied with a loud voice.

「Some time ago! There was a messenger from town! It seems that Rem-san, and Celestine-sama! Were attacked by a Demonic Being! Within the town! There's a Demonic Being!」

「What was that?」

Diablo felt a chill run down his spine.

Edelgart narrowed her reptilian-like eyes, and smiled.

「Gregor did well? Even though idiot, worked hard.」

Diablo guessed the situation.

There was the barrier in the town of Faltra, and if the gate used for passage were to be closed, the Demonic Beings wouldn't be able to enter.

Even if the army of Demonic Beings were to invade all the way up to the town like this, it would only become a siege battle.

That's why the Demonic Beings sent the one called Gregor ahead to

infiltrate the town.

The enemy was naturally targeting Celes.

But what about Rem?

Did the Demonic Beings realize that the soul of the Demon King was within her? No, if they did know, they should have attacked when they went near the Man-Eating Forest.

In any case, he needed to quickly return to town!

Diablo looked at the enemy.

Edelgart was putting her breath in order.

「Since, Gregor did well~.....if you, brought down, it Demonic Beings' win? You play bit longer?」

「Boris!」

Diablo yelled with a low voice.

「Y, yes!」

「Immediately have the people that are watching get their heads down! I'm going to use a maximum magic! You as well, if you don't want to die, you should roll into a ball on the other side of the stone wall!」

「Ha, hahi! Right away!」

While shouting with a loud voice, Boris went back.

「Get your heads down! If you don't want to die, hide behind the wall! Hurry!」

Diablo raised 《The Staff of Tenma》.

Edelgart glared at him.

「Sorry.....but the time to experiment has disappeared.」

「Experiment?」

「I have no sympathy for Demonic Beings, but as praise for placing a wound on me in our fight, if you withdraw from here, I'll overlook it, alright?」

The strongest magic that Diablo could use needed thirtysomething seconds until it would be invoked.

Actually, he had started charging it ever since he heard Boris' words, but it would still take some time.

After worrying for a bit, Edelgart talked.

「Save Demon King-sama is, Edelgart's mission? That, why~, persist. Even if die.」

「Hmph, save the Demon King you say? You will?」

Diablo laughed.

Edelgart inflated her cheeks.

「.....Hate, that laughing.」

「You know nothing. The true Demon King, is me——No one other than Demon King Diablo! So, not knowing that, you've devoted your loyalty to a fake Demon King!」

「True, Demon King.....Diablo?」

「That ignorance, is deserving of certain death!」

——I made it in time.

During the time he was saying random things, the preparations of his magic were completed.

「《White Nova》」

On the tip of his staff, a pure white fireball about the size of a pingpong ball was produced. That fireball, fell to the ground at a lax speed.

The instant the fireball touched the stone paving——

It split open in pure white.

His sense of hearing was painted out from the thunderous roar.

His field of vision became pure white, sound was inaudible, and he couldn't move due to the magic's petrification. Maybe it was that kind of magic, or maybe it was the effect of 《The Demon King's Ring》, damage didn't come to him but——a disintegrating annihilation due to magic power should have been repeatedly happening in the effect range.

It was the final Fire and Light attribute magic that Diablo learned when he became level 150.

How the MP consumption was huge and how it took time until it invoked were weaknesses but——Its power was tremendous. It was enough that even a large high level monster would be defeated in one hit.

The effect range was a semi-circle that went about twenty-something meters forward from the user's feet, and although Fort Bridge Ulg was out of the range, since the magic's power was too large, he didn't know what could happen.

For an instant, he thought about Shera.

——Please let her be properly hidden!

Since she was a child whose head didn't function very well, he was uneasy. Color came back to the world that was dyed white.

「Uoh.....」

The game's magic wouldn't change the terrain, but in this world, it carved a definite scar.

The stone bridge that was in front of Fort Bridge Ulg had been erased.

The area ahead of where Diablo was standing had completely disappeared,

enough to make one think that it was before the bridge was constructed. Rather, the area under feet started to crumble.

Hurriedly, he pulled back all the way to the fortress.

In the game, the ground being gouged out was just an effect and once the magic finished, its traces wouldn't remain. But it wasn't like that in this world. Even if he didn't intend to destroy something, if it gets hit, it will break.

The fortress was safe.

At first, he was startled by the guards that weren't moving, but they were just trembling from the sound and shock, and it seemed that there weren't any casualties.

A majority of the Demonic Beings were annihilated.

Surprisingly, despite having received 《White Nova》 immediately after using 15% of her HP, Edelgart was standing.

Was she a Demonic Being that would appear in the back regions of Demon King territory?

Should he praise her with "As expected of a commander"? Should he claim abuse with "Don't come out in a place like the Man-Eating Forest. What are you? A Bugged Character?"

She had lost her armor, lost her riding dragon, and lost her spear.

「.....Un.....Unbelievable.....For.....almost everything, disappear.」

「Bring me down? Play around you say? Don't push your luck too far, you lowly Demonic Being. I'm sure I said that I am a Demon King.」

「.....Demon King.....Diablo.」

It looked like she could move, but she probably didn't have the strength to continue the battle anymore.

「If you still wish to fight, then come to the town. I have another maximum magic, so next time for sure, I'll annihilate you.」

Just to be sure, he threatened her.

Maybe because they were outside of the effect range, there were still some Demonic Beings remaining but he had no choice but to leave them to the fort bridge's guards.

The town was the problem.

Diablo passed through Fort Bridge Ulg, and glared in the direction of the town.

Shera rushed over.

「Diablo! Are you alright!?!」

「Worrying about me is pointless.」

「Then, let's hurry! The town is in trouble!」

「Umu.....I'll attempt Return magic.」

He tightly gripped Shera's hand, who got surprised and stiffened up. Returning to the last town he had visited with the entire party, it was magic that was the basic of the basics.

There was no scientific basis.

——However, if Divine Beings and the Magicians of the Royal Capital are able to use it, it should be alright for me to use!

Diablo precisely imagined the process of using Return magic inside his brain.

Every time he used magic up until now, he was never this anxious.

——I'm begging you, please let me be able to use it!

Be invoked!

「《Return》！」

Part 9

The town of Faltra——

At the center of the west plaza, a pillar of light stood.

The people that were trembling with fear from the unexpected sounds of battle this time panicked wondering what was going on and started to run away.

Making the air quiver, particles of light formed into two people's worth of silhouettes.

When the pillar of light vanished, in its place, there was a black clothed Demon, and an Elf girl that had her eyes wide open and was trembling.

Diablo surveyed the surroundings.

He hadn't come here before, but it was the plaza.

The stone walls that he recognized were without a doubt the walls of the Frontier Town Faltra.

Among the Transfer magics, the one that was the most basic one, Return magic——was invoked.

He felt sick as if he had a bit of motion sickness, but it was of little

significance and wasn't a problem.

In the game, whenever he transferred, there was an effect of the image of the landscape being washed away at high speed. The actual transfer was exactly just like that.

It was a sensation of becoming grains of light that moved with a frightfully fast speed and flying through the sky.

The scene of the grasslands that he had walked up until now being washed away to his back had deep emotion that wasn't in the game's transfer, and was a precious personal experience.

However, he didn't have the time to be delighted with the success of a new magic.

He was anxious about where they would appear but it seemed that they were transferred to the town's plaza just like in the game.

Shera's knees had given way and she was clinging onto Diablo.

「Fal, Faltra!? Why!? Why!?!」

「I'll explain it later! Right now, saving Rem comes first!」

「Ah, that's right!」

「Tsk.....Where the heck is he!? The inn!? The Adventurer's Guild!? The Magician's Guild!?!」

If it were the game, it seems that a Message could be sent to Players that were registered as Friends.

Though, since Diablo didn't have anyone to use it on, he didn't use it.....

It seemed that Chat was also possible with Party Members.

Diablo, he.....

——It's very likely that can't be used.

Transference conformed with appearance of the world and its setting was presented.

However, things like Message and Chat were definitely things that were offered by the System.

It was the same with Item Storage and Item Trade.

Things that weren't in the world's configuration were all things that couldn't be used.

He panicked.

Where should he go?

Shera pointed at the main street. That should be the street that the inn and the Adventurer's Guild are.

「There's an unpleasant presence over there, Diablo! It's the same as the one that came from the inside of the Man-Eating Forest!」

「I'm relying on those words, Shera!」

Diablo started running.

He knew that Shera's feeling was correct from the voices of the people that were running away.

And then, they finally reached the front of the inn.

They discovered a great number of dead bodies.

Part 10

The inn was partially destroyed.

It just barely managed to avoid collapsing, but it had lost enough of the wall that it wouldn't be strange if the second floor fell down at any moment.

And then, in the area, fragments of the wall and pillars were scattered about and a great number of people were shedding blood and collapsed.

They were corpses.

There were also corpses of soldiers.

There weren't wounds due to swords or arrows, but they were all wounds of being crushed.

There was also the figures of some that wore the robe of the Magician's Guild.

Several of the Adventurers were also collapsed.

They probably put their lives on the line and tried to protect the people of the town.

「.....How awful.」

Shera's voice was trembling.

Certainly, this much of a disaster didn't happen in the game.

「So that guy did this.....」

Diablo found the strange-looking Demonic Being, and glared at him.

Alongside a wall, Rem and Celes were cornered.

Rem was down on one knee, and breathing with her shoulders.

Blood was flowing down from her forehead.

Celes looked like she was uninjured but if she were in the Demonic Being's reach, she probably wouldn't be living anymore.

In front of the girls stood a bloodstained man.

The things that was once golden armor and helmet were already full of

holes and of no use.

His sword was broken, and he looked like he already had no fighting strength left.

Even so, he was standing.

「.....I, I, won't fall.....In front of women, never.」

Rem shouted.

「Just, stop already, Emil! Why are you going so far to fight!? You're going to die!」

「.....Protect women.....I.....Absolutely.....That's what, I swore.」

「Ha haa! Oi oi, so yer still not gonna fall!? Seriously, you Humans, really are obstinate! Just die already!!」

It was a giant Demonic Being that possessed a head like that of a lizard. It had a torn robe entwined on the lower half of its body. It was something white but it looked like it was dyed dark red. Most likely, with people's blood.

Its exposed skin was covered with scales that had a luster like that of obsidian.

It brandished its fist that was about the size of a person's head.

It mercilessly struck at Emil who was on the verge of death.

「《Air Shoot》」

Diablo's magic sent the Demonic Being flying back.

As if a squall had blown in, it separated the opponent to a distance where his fists wouldn't reach.

「Whoa oa oa.....!？」

For now, they were separated by about ten-something meters.

Slowly, Diablo approached Rem's group.

「Hmph.....It's hard to say that I made it in time but.....You're alive, right, Rem?」

Her eyes opened wide.

「Diablo!？」

「ッ!？」

Celes also made a face that looked like she couldn't believe it.

Shera rushed over. With a lot of energy, she embraced Rem.

「Uwahn! Rem! I'm so glad you're alive!」

「.....Are you an idiot, Shera! Why are you coming out in front of a Demonic Being!？」

「I, I mean, I was really worried!」

「.....Even if you say that.....There's no need for you to jump into danger as well, right!？」

Diablo gently placed his hand on Emil's shoulder, who was in a terrible state to the point that it was miraculous that he could even stand.

「Oi, youngster, you're alive, right?」

「Uugh.....I will.....protect women.」

「Umu, you certainly did protect Rem and Celes. I shall acknowledge that fight.....O Warrior, you should rest for a while. The rest has been taken up by this Diablo.」

Maybe because those words had reached him, Emil tumbled down starting with the knees.

Diablo took out an HP Recovery Potion from the item pouch on his waist. When he looked at Rem, she was still embraced by Shera and looked like she couldn't move.

He held it out to Celes.

「Use it. Even if he doesn't drink it, there should be an effect if you just pour it on his head.」

「Could it be, you.....Are you going to fight with the Demonic Being? In order to protect us?」

「Ah, no, that's.....I am just giving a suitable punishment to the insolent fool that attacked my base. Don't make a misunderstanding.」

「It seems that you, called yourself a Demon King, didn't you?」

「Nn? Hmph, what about it? Are you saying that you don't want to rely on a Demon King's power at this point?」

「That's not it.....So there are some good Demon Kings. Please forgive me for doubting you. Please, I'm begging you. Please save Rem-san——no, the world.」

Celes silently lowered her head.

Since this was the first time he had been asked a favor like this, he was perplexed in his mind.

Diablo turned his back towards the girls.

「Even without you saying that, this Demonic Being, has angered me.」

He squared off against the enemy.

Part 11

「You, you went and did somethin' foolish, didn't ya?」

「Same to you, attacking the base of this Diablo, you better not be thinking that you'll be going back safely, got it?」

「Kuhah! Ya damned half-assed bastard that ain't Human nor Demonic Bein'!」

To think that even Demonic Beings had discrimination against Demons.

——If I remember correctly, Edelgart said “Gregor”, didn't she?

He talked in a way that had no class, but what was bestowed on Emil's body wasn't just physical damage.

「.....Fumu.....So he's a Magician that stretched out his ability as a Fistfighter. To think that there would be a 《Punching Magician》 among the Demonic Beings.」

「Aah? What're ya mumbling about? No matter how ya beg fer yer life, I'll kill ya! I don't have tha time ta play with ya! I'm gonna hurry up and destroy tha barrier!」

——Time? I see, if it were going as planned, I guess it would be about time that the Demonic Being would have reached the town.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

「If it's about Edelgart, she probably won't be coming.」

「Nu!?」

「After all, I defeated about half of the hundred-something Demonic Beasts and I had also given Edelgart a fair amount of damage.」

「Hah.....Kuhaha! What are you saying? Such a transparent lie is.....」

「It's something you'll understand if you fight me. I wonder which one of us should be begging for his life.....Well, no matter how you beg for your life, I won't forgive you though.」

Gregor thrust out his fist from a distance where he shouldn't be able to reach.

「Justt diee! 《Dark Bullet》 !!」

It was the Darkness attribute's elementary magic.

Originally, it shouldn't have considerable power, but the user's status was probably abnormally high. It were as if it were a different magic.

The jet-black bullet drew near with an ultra high speed.

——As I thought, so he's a 《Punching Magician》.

They fought with their fists in the close combat that Magicians were originally poor at and when the opponent was distant or when they wanted fire power, they would use magic.

One might think that it was a perfect style, but it was just a mere jack-of-all-trades.

More importantly, he had used magic.

——In the end, that item is the one that is the most fiendish.

The effect of 《The Demon King's Ring》 was invoked.

The jet-black bullet was recoiled.

It bore through Gregor's breast.

「Gohah!？」

He probably never received the magic he fired himself before.

Surprised, he didn't even understand what had happened.

Diablo prepared 《The Staff of Tenma》 .

「What's wrong?」

「Kuh, wh, what did you do!？」

「I did nothing. My attack, is about to start. Look, 《Dark Bullet》 !」

The air trembled.

Although the power of Darkness attribute magic was high, since the MP consumption was intense, he held back from using it.

However, by daring to use the same magic, it distinctly exemplified the difference in level. Whittling down the enemy's fighting spirit was the most effective way of fighting.

A gigantic bullet that was three times bigger than the one before——No, a shell flew.

Though, the speed itself didn't change.

Gregor protected his body with both of his thick arms, had those black scales of his smashed, and got damage engraved on him.

「Guaaah———!？」

「Don't shout. I haven't used a magic that is all that great.」

The skin that dropped the scales quivered.

His reptilian eyeballs glared at Diablo.

「What.....was with that power.....!？」

「One who is a Magician of magic, wouldn't call 《Dark Bullet》 the strongest magic, would he?」

「Gugugu.....Don't underestimate me! 《Dark Press》 !!」

Gregor looked up overhead, and put up his hand.

A black sphere was produced at his hand.

He threw the black sphere that was the size of a baseball.

If it were just about dodging it, Diablo could easily do it. However, this was a magic that possessed an effect range of five meters.

In other words, he couldn't escape that ball just by dodging it.

Manipulating gravity, it would flatten enemies that were in its effect range——is what the setting should have been.

There was also the special effect of putting the enemy in a Bind status for a while.

There was also a similar magic for the Earth attribute, but this was the Darkness attribute.

——However, magic is magic.

Once again, the reflexion effect was invoked, and the 《Dark Press》 was rebounded back to Gregor.

The lizard headed Demonic Being received his own magic, and dropped to one knee right there.

「Guah!? Y, you.....Just what.....have ya been doin'!？」

「Do you still not understand? Your head is just that of a lizard after all.

Still, your magic power is weaker than I thought, isn't it? If it's that magic, it should put out at least this much power, shouldn't it? 《Dark Press》!」

At the tip of 《The Staff of Tenma》 that Diablo carried, a black sphere the size of a basketball was produced.

He casually tossed it.

Despite being in a Bind status, Gregor moved his two feet, but he was unable to get out from the effect range.

The magic was invoked.

Gregor's large body was knocked down to the ground, crushed the stone paving, and sunk in.

「Gugaaaahhh.....!!」

「Fumu, for a large bodied Demonic Being, it seems that it's rather effective.」

「Ugu.....gu.....I, I get it! I'll, withdraw already! I'll leave the town! I also believe, that you, repelled Edelgart!」

「I see.」

「Ah, ahh.....」

「However, I said it at the beginning, didn't I? No matter how you beg for your life, I won't forgive you.」

「Hii!?」

Gregor trembled.

It was a reptilian face whose facial expressions couldn't be understood, but the appearance of fear could be seen on it.

Diablo fired one magic after another.

「The Darkness attribute is your forte, is it not? Let us test out how far you can withstand it. 《Dark Flare》 , 《Dark Burst》 , 《Black Lance》 , 《Darkness Rain》 !」

A black hell fire, a soundless explosion, a jet-black lance, and arrows that downpoured like black rain——

Gregor screamed.

——This guy is of a different status from those hundred-something Demonic Beings, isn't he.

If the opponent's prided attack wasn't magic, there was the possibility that it would have been a harder fight.

They might be on approximately the same level as Edelgart.

After all, even after he poured this much magic on them, they still didn't get annihilated.

Gregor moaned.

「.....I, I don't, wanna.....Please.....don't kill me.....」

Diablo talked with a voice so cold that it even surprised himself.

「Didn't the people that you killed, beg for their lives just like that?」

「Uuu.....」

「Compensate your sins with your death. You killed too much.」

He hit the tip of the staff on Gregor's body.

「《Naraku》」

It was a Darkness attribute magic that becomes usable at level 130.

The effect range was touch——In other words, it would only happen to the opponent it was touching.

However, its power was high.

At the place it touched, Gregor's body started to get squeezed and sucked up.

「Gua!? Gaaaaaa——!?!」

It was a miniscule black hole.

Setting-wise, it was 『A magic that forcibly imprisons the enemy in an airspace of darkness』 .

The effect is tremendous but.....

For a Magician, getting into a distance close enough to touch them was an action that is accompanied by considerable danger.

Nevertheless, it would fail with a probability of 5%.

Though this time it didn't Fumble.

——I knew it, Darkness attribute magic sure is hard to use. It has a bit of a tendency towards romance.

Gregor was sucked up within the sphere.

Before long, the black sphere finished its duty and extinguished.

Diablo won.

The moment he felt relieved, his consciousness was interrupted.

Diablo struck his staff to the ground, and supported his body.

——As expected, when I rapidly fire this much magic, the mental exhaustion is severe.

He was more melancholic instead of worn out.

Losing the energy to live, he started to think that everything didn't matter.

Calculating it, he had consumed more than half of his MP.

That didn't matter.

No, he can't be like that.

His thoughts wouldn't settle. He even started to think that there was no need for them to settle.

——Consuming my MP to this point, sure is a problem. I should be cautious from now on.

Part 12

There were footsteps that were running to where Diablo was.

When he turned around, a whole face smiling Shera embraced him.

「Alright!!」

「Whoa.....!？」

At his back, Rem was also there. Her eyes were wet and she was moved to tears.

Diablo became even more bewildered than the time he received Edelgart's Martial Art.

「Wh, why, are you crying?」

「.....I thought.....that there was, no way I would be saved.」

「Uwahaahhan! Diabloo!」

Even Shera started crying. Even though she should have been smiling just a second ago.

When he accidentally looked——in a place that was a bit separated from them, Celes had courteously lowered her head and showed her gratitude.

Beside her, making a face that looked like he just woke up, Emil was making a wry smile.

If he's alive, that's good.

Shera was still crying.

And then, Rem came close, and gently extended her hand. Her white, small hand laid on top of Diablo's hand that was grasping his staff.

It was soft, a bit cold, but warm.

「.....If it's you, you really, just might save me.」

「That's what I promised after all.」

「Yes.」

「But don't misunderstand, got it? That Demonic Being, since he attacked my base, I only gave him a punishment appropriate for that crime. I did not fight for your guys' sake. There are other people that you should be thanking.」

「.....Of course, I'm thank for to Emil and all the other people. However, Diablo.....Right now, please let me say my thanks to you.....Thank you very much, for protecting me.」

When he was firmly gazed at, it was embarrassing.

——At a time like this, what would a Demon King say?

Since he had never seen something like a Demon King being thanked by a young lady, he didn't know. There weren't any situations like this when he did his Demon King role play either.

He looked at Rem.

Suddenly, his eyes stopped at the choker.

「That's right, the choker.」

「.....What is it?」

「You have the slavery choker attached, right? That, in other words, right now, it means you're my property, right?」

「.....Eh? B, but, this was an accident.」

「As you are now, you are my property! That is why, it is natural for me to protect you and it's not like I fought for your sake! Things like gratitude are useless!」

Rem blushed.

「.....S, so I'm your property. That's true.....As long as I have this slavery choker.」

Muttering that, she showed a smile that she hadn't shown in a long time.

——Was that just now painful?

After he said something embarrassing, he wanted to die. This was why he hated personal communication.

Shera, who was embracing him the whole time, alternately looked at Diablo,

who had gone silent, and Rem, who expressed a smile full of happiness.
And then, she raised a panicked voice.

「Eh? Wait, Diablo? Only Rem? What about me!? Own me too, okay!？」

「Ahh? That's true, you too I guess.」

「Isn't that just mean!? Doing it like, it's something on the side! Hey, Diablo!
Look at me!」

Still embracing him, Shera forcefully and continuously pressed him.

「Oi, would you stop that.」

Diablo raised a troubled sounding voice.

His true thoughts were 『Uwah, please stop it. If you keep pressing those
bulges of that fiendish chest on me, my sense of reasoning will break!』 .

Diablo's anguish looked like it would still continue.

Epilogue

The mental fatigue had a surprising aftereffect.

In the game, both HP and MP would completely recover after one night's sleep but.....

Thinking about it, just like how there's no way a mortal wound would heal in one night, there was no way that his melancholic feeling would clear up once it became morning.

In the end, he spent the day just lazing about.

For the inn that they were at, they were in a large room similar to the one they had before.

Amazingly, the famous 《Relief》 Inn that greeted them with 『It's the inn's Idol, Mei-chan, ya know~ Kyaha!』 was apparently a chain store. Diablo's group immediately borrowed a single room at the nearby second shop.

Incidentally, Mei-chan was safe, and is now energetically acting as the receptionist at the second shop.

The victims of the incident were mourned for three days after it happened. Since he was bad with important ceremonial occasions, Diablo didn't appear at the funeral service but.....it seems that Rem and Shera wore black outfits and attended.

At times when a person they should send off died, they thought that they should properly attend.

The days of depravity continued for ten-something days.

Diablo was lying in bed today as well.

——Ahh, this reminds me of the times I didn't play games and lived as if I were dead.

Like this, he just might become mold on the sheets.

Jumping on him, the one that got on top of him was Shera.

She was soft.

「Diablo~, it's, morning~, I'm bored~, wake up~.」

「Yeah.」

「Let's go somewhere~. Isn't it about time that we accept our next quest?」

「I'm thinking about it.」

「That's what you always say! Are you really thinking about it!?!」

Speaking of what was inside the head of the current Diablo, it was pretty much filled with thoughts about the softness of Shera's pair of spheres that were being pressed up against his arm.

They are really soft.

——No, aren't they even more amazing than usual!?

He raised his head and turned his eyes towards her.

She had the appearance of only having a single thin cloth wrapped around her breasts and waist.

「Wha!?!」

「Ehehe, Diablo, does it feel like you're going to get energized?」

「Nu!?!」

「Umm~, Sylvie-san said that by doing this, men will get energized.」

——What the heck are you teaching her, you delinquent Sylvie!?

Come to think of it, this excessively exposing outfit was close to Sylvie's everyday clothing. Since she was a Grasswalker and had a childish outward appearance, she still had impression of innocent beauty but.....

When Shera, who had a slim figure with huge breasts that wasn't seen on Elves, had the same appearance, she had the impression of a lewd, voluptuous beauty, and if this were a game, it would be rated R-18.

You can't! Cross Reverie will turn into an ero-game! A severe warning needs to be made!

——Well, that can be done later.

Those thoughts were completely washed away by the sensation that was being pushed against his arm.

As she was doing that, Rem, who had left early in the morning, had come back to the room.

Her eyes went wide open.

「.....ツ!! Why are you dressed like that, Shera!?!」

「Eh? Ahaha.....Umm.....It was hot.」

「.....You're because you're clinging onto him like that. Get away from him! At least thirty-something meters away from Diablo!」

「I'd be leaving the inn like that, you know!?!」

「.....That's a good idea considering it's you we're talking about. For those that don't work, camping is within their means, isn't it.」

「Uuu.....I did a quest, you know?」

「.....Wasn't that just the errand that took the place of the solatium fee that Celes commissioned ten-something days ago? You can't call something like that a quest. At this rate, your Adventurer qualifications will be revoked.」

「Ehh!?」

It was a conversation that Diablo couldn't ignore.

「What do you mean by that?」

「.....For Adventurers that earn only less than ten-something thousand Furis (F) a month in rewards, they are given a warning. Adventurers that receive warnings for three consecutive months get their qualifications revoked and they will be unable to re-register for a whole year. That's the kind of system it works on.」

「Eh~!? Why!? Is it a problem of money!?」

「.....It's a measure meant to keep jobless fools that only lazily pass the time from calling themselves Adventurers.」



Even if in another world, there was no salvation for NEETs.

Diablo got his body up.

「Hmph.....I see, now I understand.」

「Ah, could it be, you're feeling up to it?」

「.....Have you finally felt like working, Diablo?」

「Umu! I'll get serious starting tomorrow!」

「But it's still morning, you know!?」

「.....It will be noon very soon.」

Rem made a sigh.

Shera made a serious face.

「What should we eat for lunch?」

「.....Get to work.」

There were still some of the reserves that they received from Celes as a quest reward remaining.

However, it seemed that by the time that was all used up, their Adventurer qualifications would be revoked.

And above all, he would probably lose his battle intuition.

——I guess the fact that my head is turning like this means that my MP has recovered.

Using MP to the point of being on the verge of being lethargic, the recovery of it was ten-something days.

Diablo recorded that in the 『Other World Edition Cross Reverie Walkthrough Memo Book』 in his mind.

He started thinking.

——I've got a general grasp on my own ability as a Magician.

The other things that he needed to investigate were the techniques outside of battle.

Diablo had grown out his 《Compounder》 subclass, but he had absolutely no idea if he was able to make use of it.

In the game, he was able to compound the items that would be the raw materials just by clicking them, and was able to create new potions.

However, there was no mouse cursor in this world.

According to the settings, the recipes for every kind of potion was not written down. At the most, it would be at the level of the items needed as the raw materials would be listed.

For the time being, he needed to gather those raw materials and test it out.

After all, as long as he used 《The Demon King's Ring》, his recovery would be potion-dependant.

——Come to think of it, I handed over an HP Recovery Potion and told them to use it on Emil, didn't I.

He didn't regret doing that but even if it wasn't a high-grade potion, it would probably better to get it replenished.

If possible, he also wanted an MP Recovery Potion.

If it took ten-something days for just nearly half, what would happen if he were to use up almost all of it? He doubted that he would even be able to continue the battle.

Also, he needed to do some investigating regarding the magic unique to this world.

One of them was the release method of the slavery chokers.

Another one was the method to take out the soul of Demon King Krebskrem.

When he suddenly came to himself, not only Shera, even Rem had gotten onto the bed.

「Wh, what is it?」

「Ahaha, you finally made a face that was just like you, Diablo.」

「.....As you were, I was worried that you might become mold on the sheets. Are you alright now?」

「Hmph, there was completely no problem with me from the beginning.」

He was acting tough but it seems that he made the girls worry more than he thought he would.

Enough to make Shera take an appearance where she might as well be naked.

Still in that appearance, she embraced him.

「Let's go on another quest, okay!」

「U, umu.」

「.....Kuh.....Why is it that you have to press your chest up against him every time!?」

「I mean, they just touch him when I hug him, you know?」

「.....Then you just have to not hug him, right!? How shameless!」

「Well, if you were to hug him, Rem, your ribs might touch him.」

「Th, that isn't true! Look!」

With teary eyes, she pressed her chest against him.

——Ah, it's true. Her ribs might be touching me a bit.

Nonetheless, even if it was the short, slender, childish-bodied Rem, if she embraced him, he starting to bulge chest was soft.

There was a laughing voice that went *Kusukusu*.

When they turned their eyes, the door to the room was open, and the Adventurer's Guild's Guildmaster Sylvie was leaning against the door frame.

「Good morning~, you guys sure do get along!」

「Kyaah!?!」

Raising a scream, Rem separated from Diablo.

Shera was unreserved. She greeted Sylvie still embracing Diablo.

「Ah, Sylvie-san, good morning~.」

「Hey there, Shera-chan. Did Diablo-san get energized?」

「Yup!」

Making a *Gyuu gyuu* sound, Shera pressed her chest that was only covered with a thin sheet of cloth and delightfully nodded.

——I probably would have gotten energized in a different meaning. On the contrary, I wouldn't be able to get out of bed. What would you do about it then!? Do it more!

Since it couldn't be helped, he did his Demon King role play while covering himself up to his waist with the sheets.

「Do you need something, Sylvie?」

「Today, I came with a story that might interest you, Diablo-san.」

「Hou? I'll allow it, you may speak.」

Sylvie made a rare serious expression.

「.....A demand for the delivery of Shera L. Greenwood had been delivered to the feudal lord of Faltra City from the Elf Kingdom. There is still ten-something days until the settlement date, and if isn't executed, they say that they won't hesitate to start a war.」

「Did you say start a war!?!」

「ッ!?!」

Shera froze up.

Rem squinted her eyes.

「.....Are they sane? For fellow people of the Races to be fighting against each other.」

「I wonder? You see, I was requested by the feudal lord to see if there was a way to peaceably settle all of this.」

「In other words, you accepted handing Shera over as a quest?」

Diablo made his eyes do a run.

In his mind, he clicked his tongue.

《The Staff of Tenma》 was tumbled in a far off corner of the room.

Recently, whenever he lied in bed, he would take off his black clothes 《The Hollow of Jet-Black》, his mantle 《The Curtain of Dark Clouds》, and his item pouch. Lethargy sure is fearsome.

Shera trembled in Diablo's arm.

Rem grabbed a Summoned Beast crystal that was in her belt pocket.

Sylvie raised both of her hands.

Just as they were thinking about what kind of magic she was going to use, she had just given in.

「Hold it, hold it.....There's no way I'd fight with you, Diablo-san, right?」

「But did you not accept a request from the feudal lord?」

「Well yeah, for the feudal lord, he wouldn't want to have something like a war with the Elf Kingdom. But, think about it. Diablo-san, you're a Magician that was able to repel Demonic Being troops, you know? Do you think that I'd be able to snatch Shera-san away with brute force?」

「Hmph, it would seem that you're not idiotic.」

——To be honest, if she were to do a surprise attack when she was playing a coward, that would have been suspicious!

Sylvie smiled with a grin.

「Well then, it's a quest from the troubled feudal lord and me. Prevent the war with the Elf Kingdom, Diablo-san!」

To be continued

Afterword

Thank you very much for reading 『Isekai Maou to Shoukan Shoujo no Dorei Majutsu』 .

This is the author, 『Murasaki Yukiya』 .

A gamer protagonist is summoned to another world and commences being a Demon King (acting). He deepens his relationship with the Summoner girls (in various meanings), gets to know the people of the town, and saves the town from a crisis that wasn't in the game——that's the kind of tale it was.

Since a fair amount of volume came out once I started writing what I wanted to write, it became fairly bulky but.....because of that, I intended for it to finish up as easy to read. How was it?

If you enjoyed it, then I am happy.

For the next volume——it's still undecided if it can be published but.....the plan is to have the Elf King and Prince (Shera's father and brother) make their appearance. How will Diablo deal with them!?It would be nice if I could write it.

This is going to be some advertising. 『Altina the Sword Princess』 is in the middle of its series publication by Famitsu Bunko.

The manga that I am the original author of, 『Koma Hibiki』 is planned to have its second volume published on 12/9 by Fujimi Shobou Dragon Comics Age.

At the beginning of next year, there are plans to novelise Kantai Collection - Kankore- by Kadokawa Sneaker Bunko. Everyone together with me in the work, I look forward to working with you.

Thanks——

Tsurusaki Takahiro-sensei, thank you very much for the beautiful illustrations. Having you guide me with this work ever since the planning stage, I received many ideas and things pointed out. The style of creating that I didn't have until now was refreshing and very enjoyable!

Designer from Afterglow, Ooishi-sama, thank you very much for the

wonderful design.

Shouji-sama who was in charge of editing, this was the first time I received this much trust. It would be great if I responded to your expectations.....I'll do my best from here on out as well!

Everyone of the Kodansha Lightnovel Bunko Editorial Department and people of the staff. Family and friends that gave me support.

I give my maximum amount of gratitude to the readers that read up to this point! Thank you very much.

Murasaki Yukiya



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